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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH, 2010

BOSCH LAND:

Ownership is thorny topic for local people

by TIM CHAPMAN

THE GEM's revelation that Bosch owns 200 acres of land in the Vale has been greeted with surprise and dismay in the nearby village of Pendoylan.

The village is little more than two miles away from the factory, but for the locals to whom the countryside is precious, news that at least 164 acres has industrial planning, and that it could be more, is a blow.

Jeanette Llewellyn, a resident of Pendoylan for 31 years and joint caretaker of the village's primary school, said: "This is a green belt area where it is hard to get planning permission!

"Bosch have come here, people have worked for them, and then they say '*that's it*' and they are off to another country.

"In the meantime, they have bought a lot of acreage and could make money on it – it seems a nice investment for them."

Mrs Llewellyn highlighted the irony that for local people to get planning permission was no easy task, while a large company had got it over a large area of land. The former deputy leader of the Vale Council, Tony Williams, has said South Glamorgan County Council granted planning on at least 164 acres.

Last week, Bosch told The GEM:

"*Bosch understands the strong interest in the land as it would be ideal for future development in the region.*

"*Due to its prime location, we have already been contacted by a large number of interested parties.*

"*Bosch will inform all relevant parties in due course once a decision on the future of the site or a potential sale is made.*"

Mr Dave Samuel of Home Farm, Hensol, said local people did not know the full facts surrounding what had been agreed on the land, and also pointed out that the location of the factory had been flawed from the outset with many people having to travel to it from parts of the Rhondda.

"It would have been much more sensible to locate it in the area in which people live.

(*Continued on page 3*)

Old Hall garden gets a make-over!

LEFT: An artist's impression of how the Old Hall will look when the project is completed.

WORK has started on a £37,000 project aimed at reviving an important garden area near the centre of Cowbridge.

The improvement project for the Old Hall Gardens was created by a group of volunteers from the Cowbridge Charter Trust in conjunction with the Vale Council.

The project aims to revive the garden area by:

- Renovating the Georgian façade and repairing damaged stonework;
- Creating a terrace in front of the façade which will be more accessible to the disabled and accommodate more seating and tables;
- Improving the pond both visually and in terms of appeal to wildlife;
- Installing better lighting;
- Installing many features friendly to wildlife, such as bat and bird boxes and bird feeders;
- Wildlife-friendly planting;
- Creating an outdoor reading area for community use;
- Developing a sensory garden for the visually impaired.
- Improving signage and interpretation both to and within the garden, so the attraction becomes an important new destination in its own right.

The funding for the work has come from the Vale Council, the Welsh Assembly Government, and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development administered by Creative Rural Communities (CRC), the council's rural regeneration initiative.

The cabinet member for visible and building services, Coun Geoff Cox, said: "The work undertaken by the Cowbridge Charter Trust will improve the gardens and complement the existing Cowbridge Physic Garden.

"It will also provide another tourist attraction in the centre of Cowbridge, which will increase visitor numbers to the historic town."

Operational manager (parks and grounds maintenance) Phil Beaman said:

"It is always good to work closely with local volunteers to improve parks and gardens.

"This project shows how this collaboration will deliver meaningful improvements to the gardens."

FLYING VET CASE TAKES DRAMATIC TURN AS 'FOXY' GIVES EVIDENCE

REPORT by AJ SICLUNA

THE Cardiff Crown Court trial of the 'Flying Vet' who is accused of illegally possessing a Lewis machine gun nearly a century old, took a dramatic turn when an undercover police officer was called to give evidence.

The courtroom was cleared of all members of the public and high screens were erected around the witness box, in order that the identity of the officer known as 'Foxy' was not revealed.

At one point during the case, the defendant, Maurice Kirk, aged 64, asked for permission for a live round to be fired from the gun in the courtroom. Judge Paul Thomas refused the request.

Mr Kirk of Marlpits, St Donats, has pleaded not guilty to possessing a prohibited weapon and not guilty of selling or transferring it.

It is alleged that Mr Kirk told the owner of a First World War fighter plane that the Lewis gun had been de-activated.

The prosecutor Richard Twomlow said it was still capable of firing the live ammunition.

The jury has heard that Mr Kirk, described in court as "eccentric", posted a video of himself holding the weapon on the internet.

MAURICE KIRK

There it was seen by the undercover police officer who contacted Mr Kirk, using the name of 'Foxy'.

When 'Foxy' gave evidence, he said he telephoned Kirk, indicating his interest in the weapon.

Mr Kirk told him "she's no longer with me". It is alleged that Mr Kirk indicated the gun had not been de-activated.

Detective Constable Stephen Reed-Parker said he accessed a website of Mr Kirk's and located the pictures of him carrying the gun.

There was also reference on You-tube to Mr Kirk landing a plane within a prohibited area of President Bush's ranch in Texas.

Mr Kirk said he indicated he had been detained in prison in Texas and was forced to take a flying test by the Civil Aviation Authority.

Andrew Huxtable, a firearms expert, said it was possible for one bullet at a time to be fired from the gun.

"In my opinion, this is a firearm. It is a prohibited weapon." he said.

Richard Mabbitt, a proofmaster, with the Worshipful Company of Gun Makers, said he had been shown the weapon and found that it had not been de-activated.

"It was stripped down and it was capable of being fired. It could have discharged a lethal round." he said. It was at this point that Mr Kirk asked that a live round be fired from the gun.

Earlier this week, 16 large black boxes of documents relating to the case were put in the dock alongside Mr Kirk.

The judge said he didn't want any time wasted and said the issues were whether Mr Kirk was in possession of the gun, was it prohibited, and if it was, did he sell it without the permission of the Secretary of State.

At one point Mr Kirk said to the judge "You and I are getting bored stiff with this case. The quicker we can talk law the better."

He also described the case as a "charade" and said that he had wrongly been classified as a terrorist.

(THE CASE CONTINUES)

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Young Alex is a real hero!

I FEEL I really should show my appreciation of your newspaper boy, Alex, who bravely delivered The GEM to us on January 7 and January 14, when we were completely snowed in and the roads and pavements were ice rinks.

Alex, helped by his sister Amy, managed to get around where others failed!

Well done Alex, I think you were a hero!

(A very grateful Llanblethian resident).

Footnote: The GEM heartily agrees. Alex is a Star!

The kind side of human nature!

ONE hears and reads so much these days about the bad and sad deeds that happen, it's a pleasure to read about a good deed.

I was delighted to read in The GEM about Mrs May Davies' 'saviour' who took her home on a sledge after her nasty fall.

I sincerely hope she is progressing well.

I, too, have reason to thank a stranger's kindness. Last year, I tripped and fell on the pavement in Eastgate, Cowbridge.

At the age of 90, I found difficulty in getting up – but help was at hand. Two ladies on the other side of the road saw what happened and ran across the road to help me.

Apart from a grazed knee and bruised arm, I was OK, but they would not leave me until they were sure.

I live in a small close of 10 houses and during the big 'freeze up' recently, the resident of each of those houses rang me to tell me on no account to even step outside. They would get anything I needed.

I think that is indeed kindness, don't you?

I always look forward to and enjoy your newspaper.

Eve Balfour, Llanblethian

Footnote: *Thank you, Mrs Balfour. We agree that acts of kindness do not always get the attention they deserve. If readers have other personal examples, we would be delighted to hear about them.*

Young people's Christian act

I WOULD like to express my gratitude to the three young people who came to my rescue late on Friday night outside the Edmondes Arms, Cowbridge.

I had damaged a wheel of my car in a pothole at Bonvilston and by the time I reached the lights in Cowbridge, the damage to the tyre was so severe the car could not be moved.

These three, two young men and a girl, immediately offered to change the wheel for me, which they did cheerfully and efficiently, and I was able to drive home safely.

It was a truly Christian act and we are fortunate to have such helpful young people in Cowbridge.

Mrs M Edwards, Llanblethian

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THE COLUMN YOU WRITE

Readers' Letters

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. Letters and emails MUST include full address and a contact telephone number. An email address alone is not sufficient. We will (*in certain circumstances*), protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters brief and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.

'St ATHAN PROJECT IS NOT PAST THE POINT OF NO RETURN...'

DEFENCE ACADEMY IN TORY MELTING POT?

IN last week's GEM, the headline comment by Vale MP John Smith that the '*MoD College is past the point of no return*' caused me to wonder why it was necessary for him to make that statement.

It is a fact that the MoD has not given the go-ahead for the construction, and will not do so until the summer of this year.

Other than the financial situation of the UK, why does six to nine months make any difference for such a decision to be made?

The difficulty that I have is that within the next 15 weeks or so, it is possible that the UK will have a Conservative government in power.

If so, the decision to give MoD St Athan the Academy will mean absolutely nothing.

Welsh Labour MP, Mr Don Touhig for Islwn, chaired the parliamentary committee which made the decision to allow the Academy to be set up in the Vale.

Readers will remember that it was between RAF St Athan and RAF Cosford, which is in Shropshire, and the MP for that area (called The Wrekin) is a Mr Mark Pritchard, who is a Conservative.

Many Conservative MPs supported Mr Pritchard in his disappointment.

Less than 12 months ago, Mr Smith and Mr Pritchard had a spat whereby Mr Smith accused Mr Pritchard of attempting to delay the project.

The scheme has been delayed and it will not be given any momentum until after the general election. By then, Mr Pritchard might well be in a more advantageous position if his party is in power, accepting of course, quite rightly, that Alun Cairns, together with the Welsh Conservatives, want the jobs the Academy will produce to arrive.

FMD Knill, Pendoylan

Defence Review could slash the MoD College

VALE MP John Smith blithely ignores the recession and public expenditure squeeze, including that on the MoD, which the National Auditor said in December was already living beyond its means (*ref 'MoD college past the point of no return' – says Vale MP John Smith, The GEM January 28*).

If Mr Smith had attended the current four-week public inquiry on the St Athan scheme, he would have heard that the PFI ('public finance initiative') funding for the Metrix-run College would cost 23 per cent more than a public funding alternative, according to the auditor's evidence to the House of Lords Inquiry into PFI.

He would have heard that the Strategic Defence Review may well cut the UK's standing forces and their training by 25 per cent, forcing the down-sizing, if not the collapse, of the Metrix scheme.

Of course, the downsized integrated military college may still be at St Athan, but within the boundaries of the old MoD base, as Llanmaes Community, Friends of the Earth, and many other local people are arguing (GEM letter January 21, by Coun Dafydd Stephens).

Max Wallis
(Barry & Vale Friends of the Earth)

Barry Lions' ABBA night was a blast!

THANKS for putting details of our Abba tribute night in last week's edition; the evening was a sell-out, every one enjoyed themselves, and we raised just under £900, which was brilliant – bearing in mind that the hall held the maximum of 80 people.

A cheque for £1,000 will be sent to the Lions Club International Fund (the balance being made up from Barry Lions' own charity account) to be used for the Haiti relief.

Every penny will be spent that way, as LCIF does not take administration costs from donations.

Barry Lions Club thanks everyone for their generosity. President Nanette, when thanking those present, mentioned that Barry Lions are actively seeking new members and anyone interested in joining would receive a warm welcome.

Our secretary is John Arbourn; telephone 02920 530114.

David Langford
(Barry Lions Club)

Thanks for raffle help

RHOOSE Friday Club committee would like to thank Steve (Rhoose newsagent) and Mary (steward at the Rhoose Social Club) for their help with the Christmas raffle – and wish them both a happy New Year!

Thank you, on behalf of Rhoose pensioners.

CT Nettleship, Rhoose

WRITE IN!
We welcome your views, send them to Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge, CF71 7EL ***or*** *ggem@internet-today.co.uk*

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL FEBRUARY 11)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
04 Thur	09.54	9.8	22.09	9.3
05 Fri	10.35	9.1	22.59	8.6
06 Sat	11.16	8.3	23.51	7.9
07 Sun			12.21	7.7
08 Mon	00.58	7.5	13.49	7.3
09 Tues	02.33	7.4	15.15	7.3
10 Wed	03.49	7.9	16.19	7.9
11 Thur	04.51	8.3	17.15	8.4

USEFUL VALE INFORMATION

CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555111
(Emergency number 999)
COASTGUARD 01792 366534
FLOOD LINE 0845 9881188
HELPLINES
Alcohol and drugs:
Drinkline **0800 9178282**
National Drugs Helpline **0800 776600**
DASH **01656 650686**
SSAFA – Forces Help for serving and ex-service men, women and families **01656 785435**
RAF Association Welfare Officer 01495 249522/01446 740522
SAMARITANS (emotional support) **01656 662333**
VALE WOMEN'S AID 01446 744755
MENTAL DISTRESS
(Mental Health Matters) **01656 767045**
Mental Health Helpline:
Freephone **0800 132 737**
MIND in the Vale of Glamorgan
01446 730792 or www.mindinthevale.org.uk
CHILDLINE 0800 1111 - www.childline.org.uk
Rape Crisis Centre 08451 221331.
RSPCA 0300 123 0744. MIND 01446 746191.
AIDS helplines 0800 567123.
Child abuse – NSPCC 0808 800 5000.
Alcoholics Anonymous – (24 hours) 0845 7697555.
Drug Aid (24 hours) 02920 881000.
Inroads Drugs Project – 42, Holton Road, Barry. 01446 404040.
Vale Victim & Witness Support -
Barry Magistrates Court, Thompson Street, Barry CF63 4SX. 01446 730704.

MP & AM's SURGERY TIMES

To make a surgery appointment with John Smith MP, contact the constituency office (01446) 743769. Office hours are 9am-5pm. Answerphone service outside office hours.

To make a surgery appointment with Jane Hutt AM, contact the constituency office (01446) 740981. Office hours are 9am-5pm. Answerphone service outside office hours.

CITIZENS' ADVICE

At 119 Broad Street, Barry. Drop in Mon-Fri (not Weds) 9.30am - 11.30am (Wed 4-6pm); at Llantwit Major Youth Centre, Station Road 9.30am - 11.30am Mon and Fri. Telephone advice 0845 120 3756. *Further information www.adviceguide.org.uk*

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Police - Gladstone Road, Barry; for normal service 01446 734451; in emergency 999. Fire - South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, Pontyclun 01443 232000; in emergency 999. Coastguard - Regional Office, Swansea 01792 366534; in emergency 999.

Gas - Gas emergency number 0800 111999.

Electricity - Emergency 0800 0520400; Water - Emergency 0800 052 0130; supply 0800 0520130.

Trading Standards Consumer Advice Centre - Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry; hours of opening for telephone enquiries - Monday to Thursday, 8.30am-5pm; Friday 8.30am-4.30pm on 01446 700111. For personal visits, Monday to Thursday 9am-4.30pm. Friday 9am-4pm. Recycling Hotline, 01446 700111.

To report a fly tipping incident - 01446 700111.

HOSPITALS

The Barry Hospital - visiting 2pm-8pm each day, 01446 704000. Llandough - Wards have individual visiting times. For details call 029 2071 1711. Princess of Wales - 01656 752752/668090.

For Out Of Hours Chemists, call the Vale of Glamorgan Local Health Board on 02920 350600, or NHS Direct Wales on 0845 4647.

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Bonvilston man in charity row for Haiti

A BONVILSTON man did his bit for the Haiti earthquake victims by joining a team to tackle a 'one-million metre' charity row.

Allen Reid was one of a team of five personal trainers who attempted the challenge, and shoppers in John Lewis, Cardiff, were able to watch him sweat and strain as he made his contribution.

The attempt started at 6am on January 30, and finished at 7.05 am on Monday, February 1. As The GEM went to press, it was on track to raise more than £10,000.

A total of around 60 local people also joined the challenge, although it is fair to say that the personal trainers were the fittest.

LEFT; Allen Reid.

Jason Korinek, a spokesman for the trainers, told The GEM that the five trainers had covered about 200 kilometres of the total 1,000K that makes up the million metres.

Allen Reid said: "Having lived in Bonvilston for the majority of my life I know the Vale area and Cowbridge well, as I worked in the Aubrey Arms for more than a year.

"I was schooled at St John's College in Cardiff and at George Watson's College in Edinburgh, where I played First XV and representative rugby.

"I went on two rugby tours of South Africa with Cardiff Schools and also with George Watson's.

"I recently joined the JJ Fitness & Wellbeing organisation, who organised the charity row, after gaining an Advanced Diploma in Personal Training."

Villagers dismay over Bosch land

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

"The prospect of jobs is vital in this day and age, but it must be balanced with preserving the countryside.

" I despair at things like this, but the older I get, the more I realise that with big business you can't beat them."

Mr Samuel said it seemed "crazy" that Bosch had obtained planning over such a large area of land, and pointed out the precedence given to the factory – the main road from the M4 leads down to Bosch, with the route into the Vale being a mere side road off it!

Mr Kami Soroush, owner of The New Red Lion Gastropub at the centre of Pendoylan, asked whether it was right that a company that was possibly leaving hundreds of people without jobs should profit from local land.

"Is it the action of a reputable company to leave with golden coins in their back pocket if more than 800 people have lost jobs?" he questioned.

VALUABLE

Workers are still hoping for an 11th hour reprieve, but Dr Ian Johnson, the Plaid Cymru parliamentary candidate for the Vale, was concerned that planning permission may be granted for major developments if Bosch moves on.

He said: "The Bosch plant and its surrounding area are in a highly valuable location for developers – near the M4 in one of south Wales' most beautiful areas.

"If it is true that there is a large amount of land owned by Bosch, then it is likely to be up for sale soon and would make an obvious target for both industrial and housing development.

"While I would welcome continued use or re-developing of the Bosch factory area for industrial or mechanical work, and to replace the jobs that are sadly being lost, I would be opposed to large scale building in this greenfield site."

"Residents of Pendoylan and the Ely Valley recently fought a hard-won battle against the area being used for an airport link road that would have seen large amounts of green fields going under tarmac and the area's character destroyed.

"I was very glad when Business and Transport Minister, Ieuan Wyn Jones, backed them and refused the airport link through the rural Vale."

COMMUNITY NEWS

TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, "Tynewydd", Llangan. (01656) 860303

State of roads

LANES and main roads around the villages of Llangan and Treoes are in a bad way.

Potholes seem to be appearing almost overnight and the area close to my home has been like a skating rink, caused mostly by the volume of water which runs off the fields.

Fortunately, I am an experienced driver (aged 78) so I quite easily negotiated the icy conditions.

The council gritter lorries seem to be out every night, but they are unable to cover every road.

Judging by the main complaint I receive, it is time the Vale Council started putting their roads in order.

Diary dates

AT St Canna's Church, Llangan, on February 14, there will be a Eucharist and a christening at 11.15am.

Other services: February 17, 7pm; February 20, Lent groups at Fferm Goch, 11am-12.30pm; February 28, 11.15am Family service.

Club resumes

AT last, the Young at Heart Club is getting back to normality, following the poor weather conditions which prevent less able members from attending the meeting.

Club stalwart, Marje Adams, celebrated her birthday and a warm welcome went to Mrs Norma Newman on her return to club meetings.

Read your GEM online: cowbridge-today.co.uk

NEWS IN BRIEF

Art Society meets

COWBRIDGE Art Society meets on Thursday, February 11, at 7pm in Old Hall, High Street, when George Goddard will be returning for the second half of the practical with pastels – non-members are welcome to attend.

As part of the society's 50th anniversary celebrations, an outing has been arranged for members to visit the Royal Academy in London on Sunday, February 28, for the Van Gogh exhibition.

Enquiries to 01446 775735, or 01656 860095.

Green drinks

GREEN drinks are being held at the Cross Inn, Llanblethian, on Tuesday, February 9 from 7.30pm.

This is an open and informal monthly gathering for groups such as Transition to chat and share information on how to build a sustainable community. All are welcome.

For details: Rob McGhee on 01446 775686 or transition-cowbridge@google-mail.com

Players wanted

Cowbridge Town AFC, which is affiliated to Cardiff City, is looking to increase its playing staff for next season.

A club spokesman said: "We are looking for players (boys and girls, under-7 to under-16) for the 2010/11 season.

"The club also want to hear from people who are interested in coaching the football teams. Training courses will be provided for all new coaches."

Anyone interested should contact Bob Murphy: 01446 760049, 07730 923167, or e-mail, bmurph13@ford.com

Vale of Glamorgan Bridge Club results

THE results for the Vale of Glamorgan Bridge Club (January 25) are as follows:

First, Debbie and Simon Richards (67.19 per cent); second, David and Marion Stephenson (64.32); third, Mike Best and Kevin Maddox (61.72); fourth, Ray Smith and Gwynne Maddox (60.94), fifth, Pat and Brian Swain (54.69); sixth, Barbara Easterbrook and Margaret Bancroft (54.17)

Results at Cowbridge Bridge Club (Llanblethian),January 26, are as follows:

First, Marion East and Pauline McAllen (61.51); second, Pam Higgs and Brenda Grove (60.32); third, Joan Bird and David Wright (59.52); fourth, Pat and Brian Swain (58.73); fifth, Mearl Owen and Debbie Rosevear (57.14).

NEWS UPDATE FROM COWBRIDGE ROTARY

Young speakers report on recent trip Down Under

LAST week, two presentations were made at the Cowbridge Rotary Club meeting.

A team of four young people gave a presentation to members and their partners of their 'group study exchange' visit to south Australia.

The members of the team were sponsored by four Rotary clubs in south Wales and spent four weeks in Australia, visiting many Rotary clubs and organisations relevant to their careers.

The four were a teacher, dental hygienist, business manager in Gwent Police and an officer of the Welsh Assembly Government.

The 73 clubs in the south Wales district all chipped in to fund their flights and expenses.

At the same meeting, club president, Colin Jones presented a cheque for £1,500 to Louise Bennett of the Stroke Association.

President Colin Jones chose Stroke Association as his preferred charity for the year, after visiting the support centre at Bridgend and appreciating how much support is needed for stroke victims in south Wales.

In receiving the cheque, Louise said: "We rely on the generous support of organisations such as Rotary – not only to help us raise crucial funds to support stroke survivors and their families, but also with raising awareness of stroke and the work we do. The £1,500 donated by Cowbridge Rotary Club will make a tremendous difference to the work we are doing in South East Wales and we would like to thank them for their generosity and support."

Louise Bennett, fundraising manager for Wales, with club president Colin Jones.

● *More than 3,000 people in Wales will die each year from stroke, and more than 2,000 will be women.*

Each year an estimated 150,000 people in the UK have a stroke.

● *Stroke is the third biggest killer and a leading cause of adult disability.*

● *Of all people who suffer from a stroke, about a third are likely to die within the first 10 days, about a third are likely to make a recovery within one month and about a third are likely to be left disabled and needing rehabilitation.*

LEFT: The picture shows the four ladies, Rotarian team leader Steve Best and club president Colin Jones.

Rotary awards school essay prizes

THE youth services committee of Rotary Club of Cowbridge recently ran an essay competition and, at a school assembly, president Colin Jones presented certificates and prizes to the winner and runners-up.

The winner was Jamie Coombes, but the judge complimented all five entries.

"They had tension and pace, were imaginative, well-structured and all the writers were able to sustain a narrative," the judge commented.

The picture (above) shows president Colin with Josh Young, Jamie Coombes, Jess Tidley and Katie Wynne. Eliza Hogg, the fifth entrant, was not available for the presentations.

YOUTH SPEAKS COMPETITION

ABOVE: The winning team with Mrs Catherine Walters, manager of the Yorkshire Building Society and club president, Colin Jones.

COWBRIDGE Rotarians held a 'Youth Speaks' competition at Cowbridge Comprehensive School, when four teams from year-9, with three speakers, competed.

Each team consisted of a proposer of their chosen motion, an opposer and a chairperson.

The judges complimented all teams on excellent performances. The winning team debated the motion 'This house believes that religion causes more problems than it is worth'.

They were: Naduni Jayasinghe (chairperson), Menekse Mutlu-Smith (proposer) and Anna Wynne (opposer).

The Cowbridge branch of the Yorkshire Building Society sponsored the prizes.

The winning team will go forward to the next round of the national competition.

FACELIFT FOR COWBRIDGE LANDMARK

A new look for the Old Hall garden area

LEFT: Local photographer Mike Wilcock captured the beginning of work at Old Hall Gardens (see story on page 1)

RIGHT: The existing facade at the Old Hall.

(Photographs by Mike Wilcock).

Mayor's coffee

THE Mayor and Mayoress of Cowbridge with Llanblethian will be holding their monthly coffee morning in aid of Breast Cancer Care on Saturday, February 6 and invite the public to join them in the Mayor's Parlour, Town Hall for tea/coffee and cake between 10.30am-1pm.

Admission £2.

Outreach surgeries

THE Vale Volunteer Bureau is hosting outreach surgeries to give information 700+ opportunities for volunteers in the area at Llantwit Major Library on Monday, February 8 from 10am-12pm, Cowbridge Library on Wednesday, February 10 from 1pm-3pm.

For further information contact Joe on (01446) 421782 or visit www.vvb.org.uk.

COWBRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SPORTS ROUND-UP

Girls do school proud in UK ski championships

Emily Hopkins, Sarah Williams and Megan Allman.

EMILY HOPKINS (year-11), Sarah Williams (year-11) and Megan Allman (year-12) travelled to Flaine in France to compete in the 52nd British School Girls Skiing Championships.

After a successful and enjoyable training session on Sunday, the girls were up for the giant slalom on Monday morning.

Emily Hopkin was first, having just competed in the Welsh Alpine Championships, where she won gold and bronze medals in the giant slalom on the final day, and finished third overall.

Emily's first run of 55.88 left her in 10th place overall. In the second run, she posted a time of 54.05, fifth overall, and finished with a time of 1.49.93, seventh overall and fourth in her age group (Junior 1). There were 178 finishers. This was a fantastic achievement for Emily.

Megan Allman was second to compete. Unfortunately, Megan fell on her first run, hiked back up the mountain to complete the gate and finished with a time of 1 min 30.42. Her second run, a determined and gutsy one after the fall, saw Megan complete a magnificent time of 58.04. This was a total time of 2.28.46 and 101st out of 178.

This was an excellent result for Megan, competing as a non-racer who does not train, but just enjoys skiing!

Sarah Williams was third to race for Cowbridge. Sarah posted two similar times for both run one and two with 1 min 2.67 and 1 min 1.65 respectively with a total of 2.04.32 and finishing 47th overall out of 178. Again another excellent performance, 10 places higher than in 2009.

Emily and Sarah's final results were taken as the team points where they came 10th out of 46 teams, finishing eight places better than in 2009. A great achievement!

On Monday afternoon, the team took part in the parallel slalom where Emily started the race; then Megan, followed by Sarah (relay race). Two teams compete against each other. Cowbridge had a bye in the first round and faced Abbey Gate College in the second.

After a great ski by Emily, Megan kept up the pace to allow Sarah to win.

In the third round, Cowbridge faced Surbington High B Team. Emily gave the team a good shot by finishing first, but unfortunately, Surbington having two Great Britain skiers, were too strong for Cowbridge. Surbington B team went on to qualify for the final, where they faced their A team, who beat them to the title.

On Wednesday, the girls took part in the slalom. On the first run, Emily recorded 45.17, which was 10th fastest in run one and 46.34 in the second, for a total time of 1min 31.51, finishing in an excellent 12th place overall.

Sarah finished her first run in 48.41 and her second run in 50.28 for an overall time of 1 min 38.69 finishing in a superb 20th place overall.

Megan was hot on Sarah's heels, finishing run one in 50.53 and run two in 50.69 for an overall time of 1min 41.22 to finish in 30th place, again another excellent performance for a recreational skier. There were 140 skiers finishing this race.

In the team event for the slalom, Emily and Sarah's times were used and they finished in an incredible seventh place!

Combining the giant slalom and slalom team rankings together, Emily finished eighth overall and fifth in her age group (Junior 1). This is a fantastic achievement, beating many international racers. Sarah also achieved a high ranking of 27th and Megan in 60th place out of 113 finishers.

As a team, Cowbridge finished eighth, beating teams such as Aiglan, an English school based in the Alps, Millfield, and Cheltenham Ladies College.

In first place was Kandahar, a club not a school, with Surbington High and Reeds School, who are renowned for their skiing accomplishments, beating Cowbridge.

Although the girls did not reach the podium for their skiing ability, they did receive a runners-up prize for a quiz 'mind trap' they competed in, and answered 11 correct questions out of 12!

Overall, the girls enjoyed their experience in Flaine showing their true grit and determination and competed well against the best skiers in Britain and beyond.

Well done and good luck for next year.

A moment to relax away from the competition.

Vale farmers' market celebrates 'birthday'

THE Vale of Glamorgan Farmers' market will celebrate its tenth anniversary year with a very special market day.

On the first and third Saturday of every month, the Arthur John car park in Bear Lane, Cowbridge, is transformed into a colourful array of stalls.

Local food from local producers is the theme, with a wide range of meat, fish, vegetables, cheeses, jams, pickles, pestos and organic produce.

The first market was held in the Memorial Hall, Barry in April 2000, with a handful of farmers. Today it has grown to around 40 stall holders offering both variety and quality that will beat any supermarket.

The market has a wide range of produce.

At the AGM of the Vale of Glamorgan Farmers' market in January, members voted for a special event to be held in July to mark its tenth year.

It was also suggested that Friends of Glamorgan Farmers' Market could be set up to provide supporters and shoppers with a closer link to the market's activities. Mostyn Davies of Mosmar Liquor and Spirits, Penarth, handed his chairmanship over to Anders Leijerstam of Venison from the Vale, Bonvilston and Eddie Gray of Eddie's Eggs, Horton, became vice chairman.

Jan Rees, treasurer from The Bryn Farm, Pendolyan and Myfanwy Edwards, secretary, from Pwllywrach Farm, Colwinston, were both re-elected, as was the market manager John Fordham of Caermynydd Piggery,

Guest speaker storyteller David Ambrose ensured members were entertained when he told them a story about a king with a pale, miserable wife whose smile returned when she swopped her boring diet for a varied selection of quality foods from her local farmers' market!

The next Farmer's Market is this Saturday (February 6) from 9.30am-1pm in the Arthur John car park, Cowbridge.

Help from the Family Fund

FAMILIES caring for a disabled child might like to know about help available from the Family Fund.

Many families need to keep their heating on constantly to prevent infections or to help their child's mobility. When schools close, having children home all day means further expense. This leaves less money for essential items such as clothing, bedding or a washing machine.

The Family Fund gives grants for these things and more, including holidays and outings, driving lessons, recreational equipment and toys. We would welcome applications from your readers. Details from *www.familyfund.org* or telephone 0845 130 4542.

Derek Walpole, (Chief executive, Family Fund)

Looking back, and forward to the new year

BONT FAEN WI NEWS

AT the January meeting, members were guided through the AGM by VCO Jane Powell.

Before the formal election of officers they were reminded of the past year's events, ranging from interesting talks, enjoyable social events, and a successful mystery trip.

Jan Riddell, who was standing down as president after 2 years, thanked her committee and individual members for their help and support.

The new committee was then elected and Jackie Jones accepted the position of president.

The next meeting will be held on February 18 in the Lesser Hall, Cowbridge. Guests and new members will be made welcome.

Casino night for local charities

A CHARITY casino fun night is being held in Llantwit Major to raise money for local charities.

The event will be held at the Llantonian Hall on Saturday, February 27 at 7.30pm.

Llantwit Mayor, Coun Russell Downe, explained: "On the first occasion I was mayor I supported youth causes.

"This year I have decided to support a wider spectrum of charities, concentrating on smaller ones because larger ones tend to be able to look after themselves.

"The casino night is great fun – we have roulette and black jack, and two croupiers.

"The £10 tickets include £50 'fun money' and a cheese/pate supper. More fun money can purchased on the evening if people wish.

"The fun money is then exchanged for tokens which you play with. There's a real adrenaline rush when you play, although you're not really losing anything – local charities will benefit.

"At the end of the evening the person with the highest 'fun money' figure will win an engraved crystal trophy."

To ensure that everybody has a chance to participate in the black jack and roulette, a limit of 80 participants has been set for the evening. Tickets can be obtained from the town council office.

PUPILS PLAN FOR THE FUTURE AT COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL JOBS FAIR

A JOBS FAIR, organised last week by staff at Cowbridge Comprehensive School, attracted pupils from around the Vale, as more than 50 stands were set up in the leisure centre.

Vale AM Jane Hutt formally opened the Cowbridge School Careers Fair, which was sponsored by Careers Wales and by Carillion (the company building the new school).

Pupils from Bryn Hafren, Llantwit Major and Stanwell schools were there, as well as parents and members of the public.

Among the exhibitors were Careers Wales, both Barry and Bridgend Colleges, the RAF, Navy, Army, the Vale Youth Service, Welsh Assembly, Metrix, UWIC, and the University of Glamorgan Business School.

There were also a couple of specialist travel companies, encouraging students to travel responsibly abroad during holidays and gap years.

Jane Hutt said: "This was a great event, organised by staff at Cowbridge Comprehensive School with pupils from Vale schools benefiting from the exhibitions, with plenty of information and advice on hand.

"This was a very important event to be held in Cowbridge Leisure Centre, with the construction of the new school under way, bringing the design and building skills of the construction workforce to the fore as the Assembly invests in this new school with the Vale Council."

The event was organised by Julie Thelwell, assistant headteacher, and Mrs Kay Jones, the work experience organiser.

The school's headteacher, Mrs Margaret Evans, told The GEM that she was delighted with the response from exhibitors, and also from schools in the Vale.

Also impressed with the turnout was the Mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian, Coun Jon Harris.

He said: "It's impressive to see the hall so busy after the effort put in by those offering information about possible careers, and the students are asking questions and finding about more about what local employers need."

Jane Hutt added: "In Wales, we have doubled the number of apprenticeships and we are funding more, as we highlight Apprenticeship Week this month.

"Every young person visiting the careers fair has an opportunity to consider the pathways we are planning for them in apprenticeships, as well as further and higher education. A great event for education in the Vale!"

At the opening of the event, Jane Hutt presented prizes to three Cowbridge pupils who designed advertising flyers for the event.

In first place was Carys Rhys-Jones. In second was Eleanor Hill, and third prize went to Nancy Roberts-Smith.

LEFT: Jane Hutt presents Eleanor Hill with her prize, watched by Julie Thelwell.

RIGHT: The AM officially opens the jobs fair.

BELOW: Hellwig Jones of Kaya Travel, which arranges for students to work on volunteer projects during a gap year.

ABOVE: Nancy Roberts-Smith receives third prize.

ABOVE: The Mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian, Coun Jon Harris, with Leigh Evans of Carillion, the company building the new school in Cowbridge.

ABOVE: First prize winner for designing an advertising flyer was Carys Rhys-Jones.

LEFT: The Cardiff University School of Optometry were at the fair to answer questions.

LEFT: Bridgend College was epresented by several departments.

The Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama attended.

AMs have 'best of Wales' breakfast

Glyn Jones, Whitefields Farm, near Cowbridge, chair of FUW in the Vale of Glamorgan, Miss Lorraine Howells, FUW, Elin Jones AM, Minister for Rural Affairs, Chris Franks AM, Adrian Evans, county executive officer for the Vale of Glamorgan based in Cowbridge.

PLAID Cymru Assembly Members were out in force to support Welsh produce during a breakfast hosted by the Farmers' Union of Wales.

The FUW held breakfasts in the Senedd, House of Lords and the European Parliament to celebrate Welsh produce.

FUW members from the Vale were at the farmhouse breakfast in the Senedd and met with Rural Affairs Minister Elin Jones.

Plaid Minister Elin Jones said: "Home grown produce is not only good for the local economy, but also in terms of quality, the food is excellent and nutritious."

Former Vale councillor, Chris Franks added: "Although these are difficult times for farming businesses, the Welsh government is doing all it can to support Welsh farms."

Haiti benefit in Cowbridge

A HAITI benefit concert is being held at the Duke of Wellington public house in Cowbridge from 6pm 'til late, this Sunday, February 7.

On the bill – The Watchmen, Cocomama, Mark Pontin group, Aubrey Parsons and Sophie Hansen.

Everybody welcome.

TV switchover starts on 3 March.

Questions?
Call 08456 50 50 50 (English language),
08458 48 48 48 (Welsh language).

get set for digital

'Llandough Hospital should get tough with drivers who take up disabled bays' – says AM

LLANDOUGH HOSPITAL should consider fining people who abuse the disabled bay parking system by taking places allocated for blue badge holders, a regional Assembly Member has told The GEM.

Chris Franks AM explained: "Plaid believes that they may need to consider following some supermarkets, including Tesco in Cardiff, who employ a private company.

"They impose fines on those that ignore the signs and park in a disabled person's bay.

"If people receive fines the message will soon get around that action will be taken. Unless they do get tougher than this, the problem will continue.

"It is important that car parking is properly managed.

"This can sometimes be a problem in Llandough village with overflow parking from the hospital."

The issue came to light during correspondence between Mr Franks and the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board.

BLOCKED

He originally wrote to the health authorities after hearing about concerns over the number of disabled bays provided.

Chief executive of the health board, Jan Williams, said that it had increased the number of blue badge permit holder parking spaces at Llandough ,and it exceeded the recommended level under the Disability Discrimination Act by two per cent.

But she added: "Regrettably, there is widespread abuse of blue badge usage, with designated spaces being blocked by able-bodied visitors or patients.

"The UHB's car parking staff are being directed to challenge the identity of such users, but you will appreciate that it is continuing problem."

Jan Williams said that the UHB was continuing to review car parking related matters to benefit patients and visitors through its car parking strategy group and car parking operational group.

Mr Franks said: "The health authorities need to ensure that that only those drivers that have blue badges park in disabled bays."

Mr Mike Spencer, the general manager for facilities at the hospital, said: "We apologise for any inconvenience to patients and staff at the University Hospital of Llandough.

"W appreciate parking on site can be difficult especially with the major building developments.

"However, the number of Blue Badge permit holder parking spaces has increased, in particular adjacent to the CAVOC Unit and in the visitor/patient car park."

He added: "We have looked into the option of issuing fines to those who abuse the Blue Badge bays but felt this was not a viable option at present.

"However, we have asked our security staff to redirect their efforts to manage the Blue Badge areas.

"We are reminding members of the public of their responsibilities to park in appropriate, allocted areas."

COMMUNITY NEWS

LLANBETHERY & LLANCARFAN

Your community correspondents are Sam & Patsie Smith on (01446) 751448

VILLAGE QUIZ

AUDREY PORTER thanks all those who took part in the Christmas quiz, which made £352 towards toilets for the disabled in the village hall.

The winner was Susie Smith from Beddau with 43 correct answers. The answers are posted on the Village Hall Notice Board.

WHIST DRIVE

THE Llancarfan Society's next whist drive will be on February 25 at 7.30pm at the village hall.

Admission is £1 and there will be prizes, a raffle and refreshments as usual.

Other dates are March 30, April 27, May 25, June 29, July 27, August 31, September 28, October 26, November 30 and December 28.

Cowbridge branch helps to build up charity funds

THE Principality Building Society has announced that it has raised more than £45,000 for its joint charities of the year – Ty Gobaith and Ty Hafan children's hospices.

Principality, which celebrates its 150th birthday this year, has been fundraising for the past 12 months with individual branches and head office completing a variety of activities.

Staff from the Cowbridge branch in High Street organised a 'guess the number of sweets in a jar' competition to add to the total.

Sue Dobbinson, the Principality branch manager in Cowbridge, said: "Our staff are passionate and dedicated fundraisers, which has clearly been demonstrated during the past 12 months."

Frank Ady, head of corporate partnerships at Ty Hafan added: "The children and families who use Ty Hafan would like to say a very big thank you to Principality for raising this amazing amount of money."

Warning parents on internet safety

JANE HUTT, AM for the Vale, recently met Penny Steinhauer, Director of I-PAT which promotes parental awareness on internet safety for children.

"The I-PAT concept has been developed as a result of research carried out to make parents aware of the dangers and to help them with easily understandable solutions," the AM said.

"Although there are great opportunities for educational development with the internet, it is important that parents are aware of the dangers and risks as well, particularly relating to cyber bullying and access to inappropriate websites.

"The I –pact initiative is an excellent example of how we can work together to understand and handle these risks and I welcomed the opportunity to meet Penny, a member of the Vale Business Women's Network, to learn more about their training courses which are being promoted across Wales."

Valeways walks boost

VALEWAYS has recently secured funding to continue to support community health walking from Let's Walk Cymru, an initiative by the Sports Council for Wales.

Gareth Simpson stated: "This means local volunteer-guided walks are secure for another year, and we would encourage anyone who has an interest to get involved either as a walker, or potential walk leader where the necessary training and support is available for future recruits."

Additionally, the funding allows Valeways to effectively offer development officer assistance to help encourage individuals, groups and societies to form their own walking groups or clubs, formal or informal, with ongoing support for up to a year.

For further information, contact Gareth Simpson via gareth@valeways.org.uk or 01446 749000.

PACT meetings

YSTRADOWEN Coffee and Chat meeting, The White Lion on February 9, at 11.30am.

WENVOE Coffee and Chat meeting, Wenvoe Arms on February 9, at 11.30am.

PENDOYLAN Community Council meeting, Pendoylan School on February 11, at 7.45pm.

LLANDOW/EWENNY PACT, Ewenny Village Hall on February 17, at 7pm.

ST HILARY Coffee and Chat meeting, St Hilary Village Hall on February 19, at 11am.

SULLY PACT, Jubilee Hall on February 11, at 8pm.

If you have any issues that are affecting your quality of life, contact your local Neighbourhood Policing team on 029 2052 7361 or log onto www.ourbobby.com

Roadworks in the Vale

Weston Square tunnel, Cardiff Road, Barry – road closure.

Plassey Street, junctions with Glebe Street/Albert Road, Penarth – carriageway width restrictions.

Pontypridd Street – junction with Mount Pleasant – footway restriction in place.

Barry road junction with Court Road, Barry – temporary traffic control.

A4231 Barry Docks Link Road, Barry – temporary traffic control.

Gileston Road, St Athan – temporary traffic control.

Cowbridge by-pass viaduct – temporary speed limit.

Boverton Road junction with Eagleswell Road, Llantwit Major – temporary traffic control.

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Surgery Notice

Andrew Davies AM

David Melding AM

Andrew and David are holding surgeries at their office, 29 High Street, Barry from 10am-11.30am
No booking necessary!

Andrew Davies AM	David Melding AM
Friday 5th February	Friday 12th February
Friday 19th February	Friday 5th March
Friday 12th March	Friday 19th March
Friday 26th March	

Alternatively, you can write to Andrew or David at:
National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff Bay, CF99 1NA

Andrew Davies: Email: andrewrt.davies@wales.gov.uk
Tel: 02920 898523

David Melding: Email: david.melding@wales.gov.uk
Tel: 02920 898732

MoD ST ATHAN STAFF PUT THEIR BACK INTO HELPING THE HEROES

MEDICAL staff who work at MoD St Athan have been putting their backs into a really tough fundraising project – pulling a six-ton truck!

As a result, more than £800 has been raised for the forces charity, Help4Heroes.

An MoD St Athan spokeswoman explained: "Each year the Regional Medical Centre (RMC) selects a charity for the year, and in 2009 they decided that this should be Help4Heroes.

"The RMC knows more than most the importance of getting medical assistance for injuries, not only at the time, but later for that all-important period of rehabilitation.

"Help4Heroes has undoubtedly made an enormous difference to the lives of Service men and women – as well as their families."

It was decided to organise a 'truck pull', and the willing workers would pull the truck along part of the runway.

Jacquie Burt said "Initially, we though each section could pull one of their own vehicles, until we realised the implications.

"Each section, apart from the RAF Police, had large vehicles, which would mean that they would become the outright winners, as they only had cars! So, we had to rethink our plan".

The vehicle used for the event was a Leyland Daf six-ton truck, to allow a level playing field for all the competitors.

On the day five teams took part, Joint Aircraft Recovery and Transportation Squadron (JARTS), University of Wales Air Squadron (UWAS) (who entered a men's and women's team), Training Development and Management Training Flight (TDMTF), and the Fire Section.

Each team pulled the truck over a measured course under the watchful eye of Corporal Ryan Briggs and medical centre staff. After a reasonable amount of sweat (but no tears) the winners were TDMTF by a 'call out' as although the Fire Section completed the course in the fastest time by one second, they were not able to be at the event for the start time as they were called out on a 'shout'.

This only goes to show just how fit they are!

Jacquie Burt and Steve Walsh also organised a quiz night hosted at the Black Buck Club assisted on the night by most of the RMC staff.

Both events were a great success, raising an impressive total of £811!

ABOVE: 'You and me, we sweat and strain.'

ABOVE: 'Anything men can do!'

ABOVE: As 'Have I Got News For You' would say: "Government cutbacks are starting to bite!"

Young Harry's haul proves a bonanza for Y Bont Faen!

RIGHT: Harry's haul – thanks to sending away Flora tokens, Y Bont Faen received a box full of useful equipment that can be used in DT lessons.

YOUNG Harry of Cowbridge's Y Bont Faen's reception class helped nursery teacher Mrs Hollings in more than one way with the 'Flora Cooking for Schools Challenge!

As can be seen in the photograph above, Harry, aged five, helped to unpack a big box of goodies that the school had received, thanks to sending off Flora tokens. There was plenty of excitement at unwrapping such a large box!

Jayne Morris said: "Harry's grandma helped us enormously by sending in all her Flora tokens, and almost single handedly supplied us with all our new equipment.

"This included electronic scales, baking tins, trays, bowls, electric timers and much more!

"The whole school benefits from this equipment in DT lessons and everyone really enjoys baking things!"

Mrs Hollings would like to invite anyone to register their tokens at www.cookingwith-schools.com and donate them to Y Bont Faen school or send them in to the school where they can register them for you. Y Bont Faen is part of the Healthy Schools campaign.

Read your GEM online: cowbridge-today.co.uk or llantwit-major-today.co.uk

Bobath concert

RHYDIAN, Peter Karrie, Denis O'Neill and Roy Noble will be joined by Margaret Williams, Bechgyn Bro Taf and The Debbie Chapman Dancers at a gala concert in aid of Bobath Children's Therapy Centre Wales.

The concert is being held at the City Hall, Cardiff on Friday, February 12, and tickets cost £25 (to include an interval drink), available from Bobath on 029 2052 2600; *email: fundraising@bobath-wales.org*

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*Terms and conditions apply – see staff for details. Offer ends 28th February 2010.

FIRE SERVICE CLAIM AT LLANTWIT

Allotments land not owned by council

LAND that has been used as allotments for many years in Llantwit Major has been found to belong to the fire service, rather than the town council.

Representatives of allotment holders from the Llanmaes Road site attended the last meeting of Llantwit Major Town Council.

Mayor Russell Downe told the council that it had been brought to the council's attention that some land on the allotment site was not registered in the council's name.

He said that the clerk had then checked with the Land Registry, and discovered that the land involved was actually owned by the fire service and had been claimed by them two years ago.

The land lay outside the boundary wall of the fire station and was the area where the allotment shop and car park stood.

"They discovered it was theirs two years ago when they were going through a review. They had no idea it was theirs before that."

The Mayor said that a meeting had taken place with the estates manager of the fire authority to try to resolve the matter.

The site had been used as allotments since the 1950s, but was not owned by the council until 1978 and a deed was drawn up, though that land was not included.

"We pointed out that we have documents proving that the site had been used as allotments for 50 years and he has promised to check with their solicitors and then get back."

Coun Downe said that they had contacted the Land Registry again and an officer had told them that because they had used the land for more than 10 years, they could claim adverse possession.

"We have sent off a claim for this with our documents, to get it put on file that we have been using this land.

"We are hoping that it will not get to a dispute stage and that we can sort it out. We have to wait to see what their solicitor will say."

It was agreed to await further information.

HATS FOR HAITI AT LLANFAIR PRIMARY

Back row: Amy Pendal, Ben Hibbs, Anna Groom, Rebecca Davey and Lydia Blackwell. Front row are: Emily Wright, Millie Atkins, Owen Francis, Ruby Hughes, Sophie Cleve, Mollie Rowland and Evie Taylor.

LLANFAIR Primary School this week raised over £250 for the Haiti Appeal when children and staff were encouraged to wear hats for the day.

Two children from each class were selected to win a small prize for the best hat, and two members of staff were also selected for the hard work they had put into making their hats. They were were Mr Camalleri and Mrs Milford.

Photos by Michelle Rowland.

RIGHT:
The winning teachers!

Millie (8) raises £70 for Haiti relief fund

EIGHT years old Millie Price put her best foot forward to raise funds for the Haiti appeal with a sponsored run on Saturday, January 30 at Windmill Lane Playing Fields, Llantwit Major.

LEFT:
Millie Price.

Despite the bitter cold, friends and family cheered on Millie, who was accompanied by her sister Josie, while friends Harry, Jemima and Rowan Westcott ran some of the way with her.

Her proud mum Julia explained: "Millie was inspired by events on television and was keen to do her part. She made posters and pictures of food drops and her healthy activities for the week, which included walking to school, netball, exercising on a treadmill machine, trampoline and scooter.

Millie's statement on the back of her booklet of posters read: "Thank you for looking at my posters. Please make sure you help the people who have no home and no food and drink.

"Help the poor children in care, whose parents are dead."

Millie has managed to raise £70 so far and would like to thank all who contributed to her campaign.

Beach path plans are progressing

PLANS for a new path leading to the beach at Llantwit Major are progressing.

Coun Dave Lane asked what was happening at the last meeting of the town council and Coun Gwyn John reported that the path was still being planned, but he said it was unlikely to be a concrete path, and would be more in keeping with the environment, passing as it does through fields.

COMMUNITY NEWS
ST BRIDES MAJOR
Your local correspondent is
Patricia Bevan-Morgan
(01656) 880418

IT is with sadness that I report the death, peacefully at home after a long illness bravely borne, of local historian David Pearce of Southerndown.

A MEETING of the St Brides Major Community council was held on January 11 at the church hall when it was reported that complaints had been made about the bus service through the villages running late – or not al all.

Repairs to the bus shelters will be made during the school half-term, commencing February 13.

Work on the handrail up to St Bridget's Church will be carried out as soon as possible. The ongoing flooding at 8 Main Road, Ogmore-by-Sea has been resolved, as after an inspection, a plastic drinks bottle was found wedged in the pipe!

The completion of the annual audit to March 31, 2009 can be seen displayed on the noticeboards in the villages for at least 14 days.

The casual vacancy position for councillor in the St Brides Major ward is still to be filled. Applications to the clerk of the community council.

THE Ladies Thursday Club met at the school in St Brides Major on January 28 when Ken Rise of St Brides Major gave a talk on the Countess of Dunraven's work in the community and association with Clearwell Castle.

THE Mothers' Union meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather, but will take place at the church hall on February 17 (Pancake Day).

SATURDAY coffee morning was well attended and Kath brought along a lovely chocolate cake to help celebrate her 80th birthday.

Happy birthday was sung and signed cards were given to both Kath and Joan.

A CONCERT was held in the Church in Wales school to celebrate St Bridget's Day (patron saint of the church).

St Athan help for Haiti

THERE will be a coffee morning on Tuesday, February 9 at 10am-12.30pm at The Gathering Place, St Athan, with cooked breakfast, cakes and raffle.

All proceeds will go to the Haiti appeal.

WE welcome your news. Email them to: ggem@internet-today.co.uk

GERMAN LOVE SONGS

AT 7.30pm on Friday, February 5 in St Hilary Church, a group of Minnesingers will be performing Minnesäng, the tradition of 12th-14th century German lyric song-writing, from the High German word minne, meaning love, the main subject of songs in this tradition.

Contact Simon Lait (01446 771842) for more details.

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Porthcawl Council calls for Tidy Towns projects

SUGGESTIONS for small-scale projects to enhance areas within Porthcawl under the Tidy Towns Initiative, are being invited by the town council.

The council was asked by BCBC to submit further schemes for consideration, following the successful first stage of the three-year project.

Under this, Porthcawl had the old play area at the back of Lewis Place upgraded.

Coun Gerald Davies said that the council had been involved with a successful partnership with the borough council.

He said: "The Lewis Place play area is an example of something successfully carried out. We were one of the first councils to benefit from this initiative. We also had some work done to the bandstand and benches under this scheme."

Coun Davies remarked that the council was now being asked to come up with some new proposals to take advantage of further funding.

He continued: "There's an opportunity to use this initiative to replace some benches with others that are resistant to vandalism.

"Also, when we had the Blue Flag presentation, it was the one and only time that the council has decorated the shelter near Ocean View Flats. These shelters are among the first things visitors see along the Eastern Promenade."

Council leader David Deere stated that the council should invite outside organisations to come up with some schemes that the town council could support.

"This is an opportunity to bring money into the town. You have highlighted some things that are worthwhile."

The council should agenda this so that members could crystallise their ideas.

He went on: "We must also give the public time to make their ideas known to us. We must involve the whole town in this debate."

Coun Deere was backed by Coun Chris Smart, who said that councillors could not know of everything that needed doing.

"We must write to organisations like the Civic Trust, Chamber of Trade, Lions, Shout, Rotary and others. We must grasp this opportunity with both hands."

Coun David Newton-Williams felt that waste ground behind the museum in John Street could be used for an open market which would bring people into town.

"The Museum Society has thought of this but has never had the money," he added.

It was agreed to contact outside groups and also find out the timescale for submitting applications for funding.

COUNCILLOR REPORTS BACK ON LAND INQUIRY

A REPORT on the public inquiry that has taken place into the compulsory purchase orders on land needed for the Metrix development has been given to Llantwit Major Town Council.

Coun Gwyn John said that he had attended the inquiry, along with Coun Ann Matthews and Coun Bob Gant, representing the town council.

"I felt that we all got our points over very well. We made a number of arguments against the need for the northern access road, and we spoke about the impact on the people living in Monmouth Way.

"We also opposed the need for service family accommodation to be built on land at Tremains Farm, where Metrix and WAG want to build 169 houses.

"These houses will be isolated from the others being built inside the camp. The inspector noted our points and the QC representing the Welsh Assembly Government did not press us.

"We were fighting to get one access road built and not two, and that one should be the southern access road.

"They will spend millions on the northern access road, ripping up the countryside and also building houses there and it's ridiculous."

Coun John said that they made it clear that the town council supported the Defence Training College but they asked about guarantees for future employment in view of the debacle over the Red Dragon hangar.

"All that money was spent but WAG did not ensure that the jobs were there that should have been."

Coun John reported that Couns Gant and Matthews attended the site visit with the inspector.

"We were also concerned about the need for money to be spent on road improvements at the Llantwit end because of the increase in traffic we will experience. But most of the money being spent is centred on Five Mile Lane and also on the bend at Aberthaw.

"Our end will need support because most of the extra traffic will come this way," he said.

"I hope that the inspector took this on board. He did a very thorough inspection, visiting the entire area, and we will get his recommendation in due course."

Boys' Brigade's chess success

THE four-man 'Masterteam' from Llantwit Major Boys' Brigade travelled to Torquay where they took on Torquay, Gloucester and Paignton.

After coming second, they now go forward to the England and Wales semi-finals. The winner will go through to the UK final.

Meanwhile, the three-man chess team travelled to Bovey Tracey in Devon. After the first set of games, they were 2-1 up and the second set of games saw it 3 all.

The final set of games saw Llantwit up 4-3, then 4-4, and the final game went to Llantwit for a 5-4 win.

The team now travel to Kingston on Thames to play against the 14th Kingston and Merton Company.

I'm sure everyone will join me in wishing both teams every success as they represent not only Llantwit Major but also Wales.

Saturday, February 6, is the date for the 'Big Jumble Sale,' in the town hall, Llantwit Major, at 2pm (admission 20p).

Any items for the sale can be brought to the town hall between 10am and midday, or can be collected by contacting Andy on 01446 796374.

A Wellsbury
(Company Captain)

Is 30mph speed limit permanent?

COULD someone please enlighten me about this matter - because even after 'phoning two local police stations, neither could tell me if it is true that there is now a permanent 30mph speed limit along the Cowbridge bypass ?

After all the years it has been there – and recently had tens of thousands of pounds of our money spent on it for resurfacing (the rainwater drainage is still abysmal!), has someone finally decided that this draconian limit be imposed?

I have absolutely no doubt whatsoever that at sometime in the future each vehicle traversing that carriageway will have to be preceded by someone walking along carrying a red flag.

Somebody please tell me I'm wrong!

J Warner, Llantrithyd

LLANTWIT IN BRIEF

THE Mayor of Llantwit's charity jazz night will take place at the Llantonian Hall on May 1.

It will feature the Victoriana Jazz Band. Further details available nearer the date.

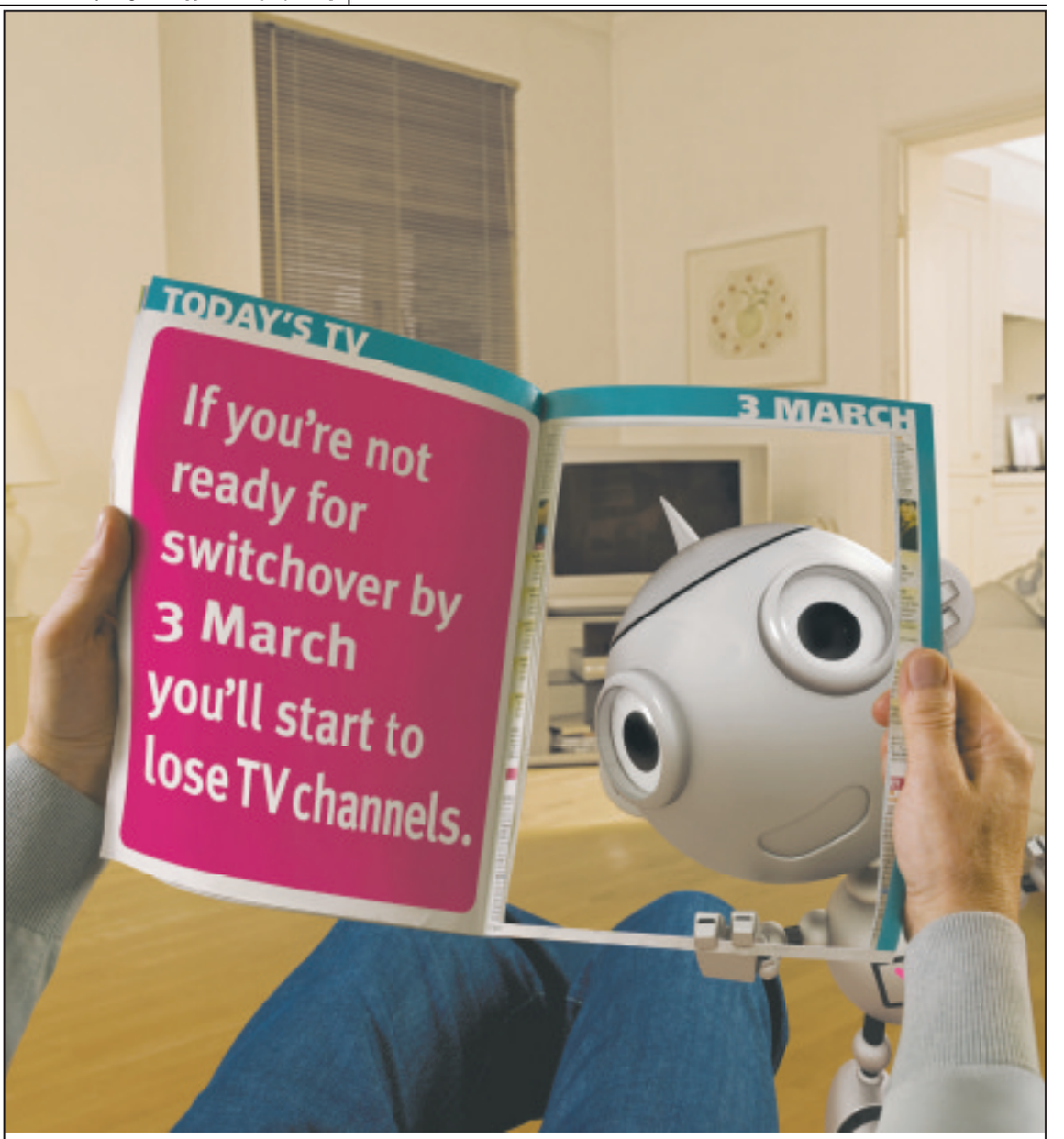
THE number of crimes committed in Llantwit Major in the past 40 days, including the Christmas period, were 34, of which 23 were detected.

PC Colin Malone said that this was a 70 per cent detection rate.

LLANTWIT Major town council has decided against giving a grant to Music in the Vale; but members agreed to give £100 to Llanilltyd Fawr in Flower.

A MEETING is to take place with shopkeepers in Boverton Road about the regeneration scheme.

Landowners will be involved as well as town councillors and members of the town study group.



On 3 March any TV that is not ready to receive a digital signal will start losing channels at switchover – BBC Two will be the first to go. Then on 31 March the remaining analogue channels will be switched off and the rest of the digital services launched.

Questions? Call 08456 50 50 50 (English language) or 08458 48 48 48 (Welsh language) or visit digitaluk.co.uk

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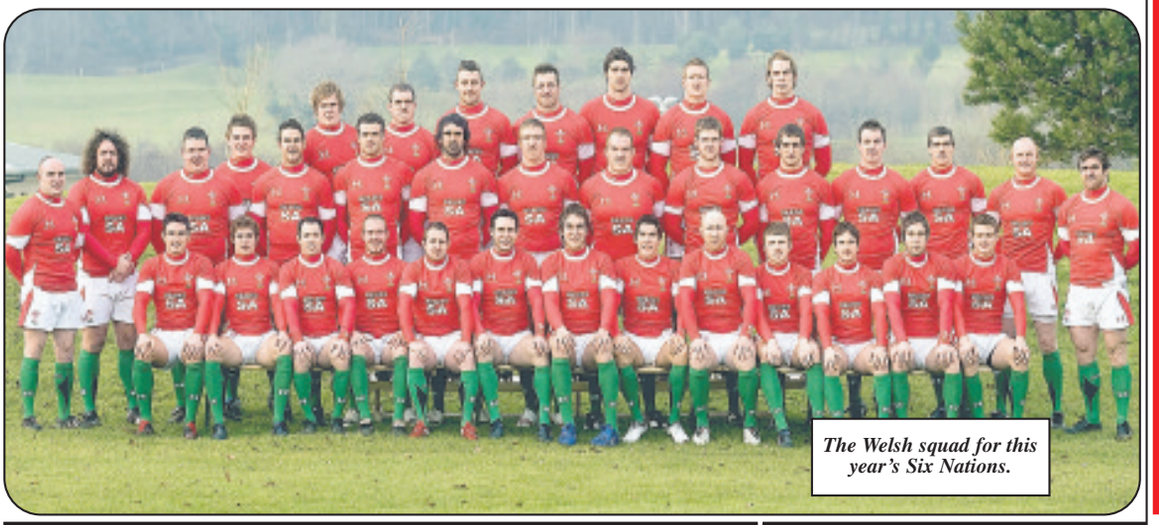

The Welsh squad for this year's Six Nations.

RBS Six Nations tournament kicks off this weekend...

...and Welsh eyes will be firmly fixed on Twickenham as Warren Gatland's men aim for a fourth straight win over England, and the perfect start to their Six Nations campaign. With three games at the Millennium Stadium, a victory could be a platform on which to build, and possibly lead to a third Grand Slam in six years - here's hoping! See The GEM's preview on the back page.

DATE	KO	HOME		AWAY	VENUE
Saturday, February 6	2.30pm	Ireland	v	Italy	Croke Park
Saturday, February 6	5pm	England	v	**WALES**	Twickenham
Sunday, February 7	3pm	Scotland	v	France	Murrayfield
Saturday, February 13	2pm	**WALES**	v	Scotland	Millennium Stadium
Saturday, February 13	4.30pm	France	v	Ireland	Stade de France
Sunday, February 14	2.30pm	Italy	v	England	Stadio Flaminio
Friday, February 26	8pm	**WALES**	v	France	Millennium Stadium
Saturday, February 27	1.30pm	Italy	v	Scotland	Stadio Flaminio
Saturday, February 27	4pm	England	v	Ireland	Twickenham
Saturday, March 13	2.30pm	Ireland	v	**WALES**	Croke Park
Saturday, March 13	5pm	Scotland	v	England	Murrayfield
Sunday, March 14	2.30pm	France	v	Italy	Stade de France
Saturday, March 20	2.30pm	**WALES**	v	Italy	Millennium Stadium
Saturday, March 20	5pm	Ireland	v	Scotland	Croke Park
Saturday, March 20	7.45pm	France	v	England	Stade de France

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QUIZ NIGHTS Wednesday and Sunday
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VALENTINE'S 4 course DINNER
Sunday, 14th February 6.00 - 9.00 pm
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Chilli King Prawn Skewers - *Two juicy king prawn skewers served on a bed of salad leaves.*
Moules Marinere - *Mussels in a white wine and garlic broth served with two slices of crusty organic bloomer.*
Blue Cheese & Walnut Souffle - *Served with salad leaves, roasted cherry tomatoes finished with a balsamic glaze.*
~
Blackcurrant Sorbet
~
Lovers Spaghetti Bolognaise - *Quality beef mince in a rich tomato bolognaise sauce on a mound of spaghetti served with garlic bread.*
Sirloin of Beef - *Tender roast sirloin of beef served with fondant potatoes and hollandaise sauce.*
Roast Duck - *Tasty duck breast, pan fried, roasted, resting on roasted sweet potatoes served with a fresh plum sauce.*
Noisettes of Lamb - *Local noisettes of lamb pan fried with fresh mint served on a bed of creamy garlic mashed potatoes.*
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Watch BIG SCREEN Rugby
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Sat, 20th February - THE FISHERMEN
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College lights a candle to mark the Holocaust Memorial Day

BARRY College commemorated Holocaust Memorial Day on January 27, when a lit candle was placed in reception at the college's main sites in Colcot Road, the Cardiff Construction Training Centre and the International Centre for Aerospace Training.

Display boards were also put up at each site with posters, facts and information for students to take away, spokesman Chris Baker reported.

Further information and films about the Holocaust were also uploaded onto Moodle, the college's student intranet. The college's Welsh Baccalaureate learners watched the film and discussed genocide and its impact, before writing film scripts and director's notes for a piece about Holocaust Memorial Day.

The college's vice-principal Kay Martin, said: "Every year, Holocaust Memorial Day urges everyone to pause and reflect upon what can happen when racism, prejudice and exclusionary behaviour are allowed to go unchecked.

"It is vital that we recognise how we can learn from the lessons of the past and how they can play a part in our communities today.

"Holocaust Memorial Day commemorates the tragic loss of life in the genocides of the Second World War and more recently in Rwanda, Bosnia, Cambodia and Darfur.

"It presents an opportunity for people to honour the innocent victims of such conflicts, while providing education opportunities to try to prevent future acts of mass murder.

"Genocide does not just happen. It starts when we no longer celebrate and respect the differences between us."

Holocaust Memorial Day was marked on January 27 – the 65th anniversary of the day that the Soviet Army liberated the largest Nazi death camp at Auschwitz-Birkenau, where millions of Jews died.

THE FIRST MINISTER GIVES HIS BACKING TO 'LESSONS FROM AUSCHWITZ' PROJECT

STUDENTS from across Wales will visit Auschwitz-Birkenau in March, to learn about the history of the Holocaust and its impact on the world we live in today.

The 'Lessons From Auschwitz Project' is run by the Holocaust Educational Trust which received an £80,000 grant from the Welsh Assembly Government to fund, over time, two students between the ages of 16 and 18, from every school and college in Wales, to take part in the project.

The four-part course consists of two seminars, a one-day visit to Poland and a special project which gives students the opportunity to pass on the lessons they have learned to fellow students and the communities they live in.

First Minister Carwyn Jones AM said: "It's important that we are able to support this project. It is vital that we remember on Holocaust Memorial Day what can happen if prejudice and discrimination go unchecked. These lessons are as relevant today as they were 60 years ago."

Education Minister, Leighton Andrews, said: "This project gives students the opportunity to learn about a harrowing but crucial chapter of European history.

"Lessons From Auschwitz gives young people the opportunity to gain valuable knowledge of what happened during this terrible period. The scale and devastation of the Holocaust should never be forgotten."

Karen Pollock, chief executive of the Holocaust Educational Trust said: "We are delighted that the Welsh Assembly Government has recognised the value of the 'Lessons from Auschwitz Project'.

"We look forward to working with them to give Welsh students the opportunity to take part in this unique educational opportunity.

"The project gives students the chance to hear a Holocaust survivor share their testimony, take part in a one-day visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau, and consider the contemporary relevance of the Holocaust.

"We hope that as a result, Welsh students will become ambassadors in their own communities, raising awareness of the past and challenging prejudice and racism today," he concluded.

Bridgend MP signs House of Commons 'book of commitment'

BRIDGEND MP Madeleine Moon pledged her support for Holocaust Memorial Day by signing a Book of Commitment in the House of Commons to honour those who perished under the Nazis.

"With January 27 marking the 65th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi concentration and extermination camp, Auschwitz-Birkenau, the Holocaust Educational Trust placed the book of commitment in the Commons/.

"It gives MPs the opportunity to remember those who were persecuted and murdered during the Holocaust – and to support a 'Legacy of Hope', learning from survivors' experiences to help create a future free from hatred and prejudice," she explained.

ABOVE: The Bridgend MP, Madeleine Moon, signs the Holocaust Memorial Day book of commitment.

"The MPs paid tribute to those remarkable individuals who survived the appalling events of the Holocaust, and have since dedicated their lives to educating younger generations about the dangers of allowing persecution and intolerance to take hold in society," Mrs Moon commented.

The aim of Holocaust Memorial Day was to motivate people – individually and collectively, to ensure that the horrendous crimes, racism and victimisation committed during the Holocaust and subsequent genocides are neither forgotten nor repeated.

"Holocaust Survivors are extraordinary people. We have a duty to them to pass on the lessons of the Holocaust to future generations.

"Holocaust Memorial Day gives us an opportunity to reflect on the legacy of Holocaust survivors, to commemorate the millions who died under Hitler's regime, and commit to a future free from racism and discrimination."

Town ward focuses on anti-social behaviour

RESIDENTS in Barry Court ward recently met at their bi-monthly PACT meetings to discuss local issues with PC Darran Fenton, PCSO Toni Treweeks, and local councillors Richard Bertin and Bronwen Brooks.

It was decided that the January priorities for the ward would be anti-social behaviour, fly tipping in the land between Robbins Lane and Westbury Close, and youth annoyance in Gilbert Street.

The next meeting is to be held at the Scout Hall, Ilminster Street, Barry, at 7.30pm on March 11.

For further information, call either the Court police team on 01446 731623 or find them online at www.ourbobby.com

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RTL Solicitors offer value for money professional advice on all family matters, including divorce, cohabitation disputes, pre-nuptial agreements, private children law matters, child support agency, adoption, financial issues, domestic violence and change of name.

Contact Sarah Jones at Bridgend-Cardiff based RTL Solicitors, telephone 01656 665850.

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At RTL Solicitors we understand how stressful Family & Matrimonial problems can be and have the expertise to ensure that the best solution is achieved in these difficult circumstances

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Now offering Complimentary Consultations Upon Request

Popular toy and train sale arrives in Barry!

THE first Chris Dyer fair of 2010 is also the first of the year in south Wales, at Barry Leisure Centre on Sunday February 7, from 10.30am to 3pm.

This show marks the first birthday of the move to the leisure centre in Greenwood Street. The extra space, superior lighting and warm environment have all helped to establish the show as one of the leading Chris Dyer events with traders and public, alike.

The ample free parking is also greatly appreciated, as is the excellent catering which is brought in for the show.

There is always pressure to book tables at Barry, with many traders travelling long distances.

Apart from stallholders from all parts of Wales, others come from as far away as the Wirral in the north and Surrey in the south-east, as well as many other parts of England.

Organiser Chris Dyer said this week: "The weather in January affected many events and there were a number of cancellations, including some of the larger shows around the UK. Now our regular buyers, as well as traders, are keen to get business moving again after some difficult weeks.

"I think that the big key is value, and I know that most of our stall holders are cutting their prices to the bone, in order to retain cash-flow and also to make their customers happy."

As always, the traders are also very keen to buy, exchange and part-exchange, and it may be well worth bringing your surplus items along on the day, if only for a free valuation.

For details, 01643 702757 and 07966 694579; website: www.chrisdyerfairs.co.uk

☛☛DON'T MISS THE...
TOY AND TRAIN SALE
SUNDAY, 7th FEBRUARY, 2010
10.30am - 3.00pm
Barry Leisure Centre, Greenwood Street, Barry, Nr Cardiff, South Wales CF63 4RU
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60 plus Tables, Many top dealers in Dinky Toys, Corgi Toys, Matchbox, Britains, EFE, Lledo, Hornby, Bachmann, Lima, etc.
and much, much more
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Promoted by Chris Dyer, Minehead, Somerset, UK

Winter warning to look after your paintwork

MOST motorists understand that keeping car paintwork in good condition prevents rust, both extending the life of their car and maintaining its value.

However, while repairing major damage is a given, minor damage such as scratches, scuffs and bumps are often left, either due to concerns about cost, or the inconvenience of having the car off the road for a couple of days.

Motoring experts agree that, particularly in winter, minor damage can turn into a major headache.

Stewart Topp, AA Patrol of the Year advised: "Check for stone chips, as rust forms very quickly in the cold, damp weather," while Paul Jarvis of leading automotive paintwork repair specialist, ChipsAway, added: "It certainly pays to repair even small scuffs and scratches, as these can spread into larger areas of rust, ultimately costing you dearly if left untreated."

ChipsAway uses a unique system, which can repair small areas of damage within only a few hours and at a fraction of the cost of traditional body shop repair methods.

What's more, because ChipsAway operates fully equipped mobile workshops, Paul can come to your home (or your place of work) and do the repair at your convenience, restoring your car to showroom condition, prolonging its life and improving its resale value.

For further advice about winter motoring, visit the AA website, or contact your local ChipsAway representative, Paul Jarvis, on 07904 840202 (head office 0800 028 7878) for more information about maintaining your paintwork.

Don't let a scratch on your car put a dent in your pocket!
Stone chips, scratches and bumper scuffs can now be repaired same day at your convenience and at a fraction of 'Body Shop' costs.
✓ Bumper Scuffs ✓ Paint Scratches
✓ Stone Chips ✓ Alloy Wheels
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For your no obligation quote, call your local operator
FULLY MOBILE
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ChipsAway — We paint the chips - not the car
www.chipsaway.co.uk/pauljarvis

St John's Cadets are flying the flag for Wales Down Under!

TWO local St John Wales cadets are among four selected to represent Wales at an International Youth Festival in New Zealand.

They are Jasmine Vincent, from the Barry Rescue Division, and Samantha Evans, a member of the Bridgend Division.

The Christchurch festival, which is taking place between January 25 and February 1, includes cultural, social, educational and sporting activities.

Based at Lincoln University (NZ), more than 500 St John members from across the globe will be attending the week-long festival and Samantha (17) of Brackla, said she couldn't wait for the trip.

"I'm really excited and also a bit nervous but I'm really looking forward to meeting new people. This will be my first time in New Zealand and I can't wait!"

Fifteen-year-old Jasmine, of Cadoxton, Barry, also said she was looking forward to experiencing the New Zealand lifestyle.

"I'm looking forward to bungee jumping and swimming with the dolphins. I'm really excited!"

ABOVE: Jasmine Vincent and Samantha Evans, who will be representing Wales.

The dedicated cadets will take part in a range of competitions to test their first aid and communication skills.

Keith Dunn, chief executive for St John Cymru Wales, commented: "This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for our young people to experience first hand how St John operates in a different country and to help improve their first aid skills."

PARENT QUESTIONS THE SCHOOL TRANSPORT CONSULTATION PROCESS

THE Vale Council decision to consider whether to dispense with free school bus transport for the 16-19 age group – already under attack from parents in a Barry Catholic school – has now been questioned by parents at Welsh medium Ysgol Bro Morgannwg.

Parents at St Richard Gwyn have made it clear that they want the bus that takes sixth formers to St John's College in Cardiff to be retained.

Now, The GEM has been contacted by parents in the western Vale, whose children already face a long bus trip each morning to get to Ysgol Bro Morgannwg in Barry.

Mr Andrew Lewis, who lives in St Donat's, said; "My son already has to catch a bus that arrives at 7.35am, and he is by no means the first to get on.

"If the free bus was phased out, then there would be no possible way of getting to Barry by the start of the school day on a commercial bus service."

Mr Lewis feels that Welsh language pupils are being discriminated against.

He said: "When the Welsh medium comprehensive was set up, we had reservations because it was not in a central location, but now we feel badly let down.

"It is the only such school, so it is impossible to transfer to anywhere nearer. I don't think that it is unreasonable to expect a bus service to be available for those students who live a long way away."

Mr Lewis also raised concerns about the consultation process itself. he said: "Consultation responses were supposed to reach the council by February 1, but we only received our letter on January 27.

"Also, I cannot understand why letters were sent to parents and guardians of year-10 and year-11 pupils only.

"Don't year-7, year-8 and year-9 get a say as well?"

For the Vale Council, the head of strategic planning and performance, Paula Ham, pointed out: "Letters were distributed, via schools, to all pupils in years 10 and 11 during the first week of January – although it is possible that delays in distribution were caused by the severe weather conditions at the time.

"Consultation letters were also sent to headteachers and chairs of governors of the affected schools, as well as further education colleges and other relevant bodies.

"The consultation has attracted a high response rate."

She continued: "The impact of the proposals on students living in the western Vale would be variable, depending on the option applied.

"The charging option would result in the current transport network being maintained – meaning that students could still access schools and colleges in the same way as they do at present – but paying a contribution towards the cost of the transport.

"This would be applied equally to all students living more than three miles from their educational establishment and, therefore, would not result in the impact being greater for those living in the western Vale attending Bro Morgannwg."

Dr Ian Johnson, Plaid Cymru candidate for the Vale, was unimpressed by either of the options – a travel grant or charging system – saying that both were worse for parents and pupils than the current arrangements.

He said: "The Conservatives on the Vale Council are discriminating against those who have chosen a different education for their children – penalising those who send children to St David's College or to Ysgol Bro Morgannwg, as well as those who make the choice to attend further education colleges to continue their education."

● *The issue will be discussed at a scrutiny committee on February 15.*

The Hairy Bloke is celebrating first birthday

THE HAIRY BLOKE discount furniture store opened its doors one year ago this week, on the popular retail park at Culverhouse Cross, next door to PC World.

Paula and James, the owners, have had an impressive first year.

This is mainly due to quality furniture from top brands at excellent prices.

Also, the next day delivery, or even same day delivery, has proved popular with customers.

Paula and James would like to thank all their customers for their support, many who have returned time and time again and recommended Hairy Bloke discount furniture store to friends and family.

Call in and view the new extended ranges of quality, branded furniture covering the 10,000 sq ft showroom with easy parking.

You won't be disappointed; you will be celebrating the delights of the Hairy Bloke!

Lions' charity book fair plea

BRIDGEND Lions are busy preparing for their 16th charity book fair at Bridgend YMCA on March 5-7.

From modest beginnings in 1995, the book fair has enjoyed steady growth and over the first 15 years, raised in excess of £110,000 for local good causes.

"As always, we rely on the generosity of people in the Bridgend area who donate books on almost every subject under the sun.

"Donations can be handed in at YMCA, Angel Street, Bridgend (weekdays from 9am-5pm). Arrangements can be made for larger quantities to be collected by telephoning 01656 652244 or 0845 833 9582; or e-mail: bookfair@bridgendlions.org.uk" said Henry Trimlett, book fair committee chairman.

Dining Suites • Sideboards • Guest Beds • Wardrobes • Leather/Fabric Suites 8 Double Beds • Coffee Tables

The Hairy Bloke - Discount Furniture

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Holocaust message at Vale UK film premiere

WARTIME reactions in America to the Nazi Holocaust were the subject of a UK film premiere at Art Central in Barry last week.

Special guests – Rabbi Aron Hier, director of campus outreach at the Simon Wiesenthal Centre in Los Angeles, and the First Minister of Wales, Carwyn Jones AM, were joined by more than 50 guests in viewing *Against the Tide*, a documentary produced by the centre and narrated by Academy Award winner Dustin Hoffman.

Rabbi Hier described how a young activist, Peter Bergson, challenged Washington and the establishment Jewish organisations to demand that the rescue of Europe's Jews become a top priority.

He said: "The theme of this film can essentially be reduced to an equation: One group kills another group, while another group stands by.

"This is essentially the story – had a number of simple things been implemented by the American government, such as rescue missions, then millions of lives could have been saved.

First Minister of Wales, Carwyn Jones, Vale Council Leader Coun Gordon Kemp and Rabbi Aron Hier from the Simon Wiesenthal Centre examine one of Nicola Tucker's (right) exhibitions.

It's about how people chose to stand by the side of the road and let it happen.

"No action was taken, and without action there was no real chance of hope."

First Minister of Wales, Carwyn Jones, commented: "It is an honour that *Against the Tide* is having its UK premiere in Wales.

"Documentaries and films like this are a powerful and stark reminder of the horror and destruction discrimination against others can bring.

"It is important that we are reminded of the lessons of the Holocaust to prevent such atrocities happening again."

The Mayor of the Vale, Coun Emlyn Williams, and Leader of the Council, Coun Gordon Kemp, both thanked the Rabbi for visiting Wales and welcomed the opportunity to premiere the film, and its important message, in Barry.

Coun Kemp said: "We're lucky to have the opportunity to hold the UK premiere in the Vale in front of so many distinguished guests, including Rabbi Hier and the First Minister.

"As Edmund Burke once said: 'All that is necessary for evil to succeed is that good men do nothing'.

This film demonstrates that the efforts of one good man were not enough to overcome the inactivity of many'."

Commendations were also paid to artist Nicola Tucker whose work is currently being exhibited at Art Central as part of the Holocaust Memorial 2010 events.

Council must wait to count pothole cash

THE Vale Council is waiting to see how much cash it will receive from the Assembly for emergency repairs to potholes that were caused by the big freeze in January.

The Deputy First Minister, Ieuan Wyn Jones AM, announced on February 1 that local authorities will be receiving an extra £2.75 million to help them tackle the numerous potholes left by the recent snow and heavy rain.

As there are 22 local authorities, each authority might expect to receive more than £100,000, but the exact split has not yet been revealed.

The money, which is additional to the annual grant already allocated, will allow work on these localised weaknesses to begin immediately.

Mr Jones said: "This extra money will help local authorities address the problems caused by the recent unforeseen weather conditions.

"It will allow them to tackle the potholes left by the recent adverse weather, and to continue the progress they have made to date maintaining the road network"

Miles Punter, Vale head of visible services, said: "The Welsh Assembly Government is yet to announce the amounts that will be allocated to each authority, or when this funding is likely to be received.

"We are, however, in a position to allocate any funding received immediately, to assist in improving our highway network."

Thefts from caravans

POLICE are investigating thefts from caravans at Porthkerry Leisure Park near Barry.

Between Sunday, January 31 and Monday, February 1, more than 28 static caravans on the Park were broken into and a number of flat screen televisions stolen.

Police believe the culprits had a vehicle waiting at the end of a path leading from the caravan park onto the bridge leading down into Rhoose Point.

Anyone with any information is asked to contact PC Phil Davies at Llantwit Major Police Station on 101, or anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number 603.

● **£2000:** 293581.

● **The rollover, which now stands at £1,500, was not claimed this week.**

● **£10:** 885786; 187730; 705657; 560934; 188798; 701971; 321690; 818295; 848318; 223453; 478072; 149910; 805443; 617161; 755037; 772115; 265174; 341488; 560374; 594155.

● **£5:** 760213; 201436; 287167; 769923; 785477; 134500; 235492; 867744; 357506; 871345; 604034; 681687; 297807; 298394; 914282; 881363; 882942; 470511; 716542; 810712; 689088; 105525; 757160; 719199; 629371; 179404; 747963; 600556; 669698; 393685; 814365; 894143; 305336; 723634; 108212; 878358; 384402; 746910; 490618; 442742; 787593; 116056; 590830; 632829; 822980; 542578; 519443; 140247; 527999; 890521; 603238; 570355; 430760; 707503; 226462; 275192; 717303; 234482; 765168; 416036.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please call telephone 02920 672062.

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number 602.

● **£2000:** 739273.

● **The rollover, which now stands at £1,000 was not claimed this week.**

● **£10:** 196627; 823551; 948747; 310794; 567252; 495078; 616141; 539591; 425716; 891428; 756049; 673464; 103407; 894621; 356014; 829606; 382098; 266244; 585072; 716543.

● **£5:** 599116; 146789; 209842; 408034; 584870; 221892; 895225; 131914; 287973; 408415; 526207; 707780; 798657; 692772; 555716; 654802; 197214; 114938; 313368; 865101; 487474; 235000; 702416; 387694; 828834; 751629; 293841; 253749; 189430; 285305; 149494; 948028; 473418; 111690; 827693; 872393; 433788; 788270; 203695; 456590; 894637; 393018; 237529; 671324; 796808; 106441; 178843; 781410; 875170; 341117; 892848; 484650; 542412; 857136; 684027; 800194; 381815; 604612; 373178; 300257.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please call telephone 02920 672062.

SUNDAY 14th FEBRUARY VALENTINE'S

Romance at a Glance

'Create a stunning setting' – courtesy of Wedding Helpers

HERE is something new in chair cover elegance – create a stunning and stylish setting for your wedding with Wedding Helpers' new 2010 designs.

If you want a wedding with a difference, take a look at our range. Our rose design will add a touch of elegance to your memorable day and cost no more than bows.

As a family business, we take a pride in every step of the process, from the manufacture to delivery and collection of our chair covers, and we personally dress your chairs. Take advantage of our service and find out what else we have to offer.

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The Six Bells is 'THE' place to dine out!

THE Six Bells, Penmark, is renowned for its welcoming atmosphere, delicious home-cooked food and friendly service.

The new year has started with a fantastic new credit-crunching menu, offering an array of tasty dishes from the pub's famous 'beer-battered fish of the day' and 'New York' style gammon' to rich 'Lamb cutlets en croute'.

Still available on the new menu is the ever popular two meals for £10 offer – something which cannot be beaten!

As The Six Bells sustains a well-deserved reputation for *the* place to dine, it is rapidly becoming a well-known party venue. Many special events are planned for 2010, including a regular pub quiz.

To receive further information or to book, call 01446 710229.

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Romance at a Glance

SUNDAY FEBRUARY VALENTINE'S 14th

Chocolate can make you beautiful!

THIS Valentine's Day, why not treat the one you love – or even yourself – to the ultimate chocolate experience?

You know all us girls (and boys!) love chocolate but also like to look good. Balance the Body, Barry's highly popular beauty and holistic therapy salon, has designed a special package to make you feel naughty but look nice...

The 'chocolate orange experience' combines a luxury chocolate facial with a relaxing orange infused back, neck and shoulders massage for only £25. But if chocolate is not your thing, visit our website – *www.balancethebody.co.uk* – where you will find an extensive range of luxury treatments that will help you make this Valentine's Day extra special!

Calling all men...Be a Valentine's Day winner!

MEN have a particular problem to overcome when it comes to getting cards or presents for birthdays, anniversaries, and Valentine's Day – it's called laziness!

Valentine's Day presents a real conundrum because all the other family events throughout the year will be dealt with quite reliably by a wife or girlfriend.

A man can hardly ask his beloved to get her own Valentine's Day card – although it wouldn't be a surprise if there was a man low enough to attempt it!

The two excuses most men rustle up when they have forgotten the season of love and romance are: *"I've been so busy"*, or the even less original, and rather lame, *"I forgot"*.

So, for once, this Valentine's Day why not surprise your wife or fiancee with your efficiency?

There are no excuses, because there are 10 full days to go until February 14.

Next time you are out, make it a priority to buy a card and gift, or take a moment to book a bouquet of flowers over the phone.

For those still blessed with some money during the recession, a weekend away will really delight the missus!

So men, make 2010 the year you made your sex proud – and don't forget ValeNtine's Day!

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THE 'CHOCOLATE ORANGE EXPERIENCE'
A Luxurious Chocolate Facial followed by a relaxing Back, Neck and Shoulders massage using orange infused oils for only £25.00
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Why not treat your loved one to something special?

JEANETTE ROBERTS, formerly of Head to Head in Dinas Powys, has 20 years' experience as a professional hair stylist and is willing to travel throughout Barry and the rest of the Vale to the relaxed environment of your own home.

She specialises in colour and cutting of ladies', gents' and children's hair.

Jeanette offers free advice and consultation if required and there is a price list available to match your needs.

Please telephone 07980 161942 for more information.

PROFESSIONAL MOBILE STYLIST

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Jeanette Roberts
For an appointment
07980 161942

Mount Sorrel Hotel offers more in 2010

THE Mount Sorrel Hotel in Barry is one of the nicest venues for a romantic Valentine's dinner dance – so book now for Saturday, February 13.

Mount Sorrel Hotel is one of Barry's favourite places for events in 2010, with many top tribute nights such as Barry Manilow, Michael Jackson, Neil Diamond, Beach Boys, Freddie Mercury, plus many more planned for the forthcoming months.

The Impulse health and fitness club at The Mount Sorrel has a special offer until the end of March – every person who pays for six months subscription in advance gets a £100 registration for free!

This exclusive club offers a heated indoor pool, sauna and various pieces of exercise equipment.

For the hotel that offers a lot, lot more, call into the Mount Sorrel Hotel, or call 01446 740069.

The Mount Sorrel
Valentine Dinner Dance
Saturday 13th February
Romantic 3-Course Meal, plus coffee & mints and a gift for the ladies.
Only £17 per person
'Night at the Musicals'
Saturday February 27th, 2010
3 Course Dinner, Coffee and Mints.
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Sample Menus
TAPAS . . .
STARTERS:
Bruschetta: A classic bruschetta topped with tomato, garlic and basil £2.95
Nachos with melted cheese, soured cream, curry mayonnaise and salsa £4.95
VEGETARIAN:
Champinones al ajilio: Mushrooms in garlic, olive oil, parsley and dry sherry £3.50
Tortilla Espanola: A classic Spanish omlette mixed with potato £3.95
MEAT:
Chorizo al vino: Spicy Spanish sausage, pan fried in olive oil and red wine . . . £3.75
Albondigos: Meatballs cooked in tomato sauce £4.95
FISH:
Boquerones Fritos: Tiny deep-fried whitebait, served with a lemon wedge . . . £4.50
Paella: Traditional Spanish paella with mixed seafood and vegetables £5.25
EVENINGS . . .
STARTERS:
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Out and About with The GEM

'Special moments' earn Erin and Verity the 2010 GEM/Ferris scholarships

THE two latest winners of The GEM/Ferris Entertainment scholarships have been announced – Erin Hayes, aged 12, from Llantwit Major, and Verity Campbell, aged 13, from Barry.

The two girls join Jimmy Webster from Cardiff as the three 2010 recipients.

Erin attends Llantwit Major Comprehensive and she explained that the stage experience gained at the school had held her in good stead when Peter Ferris held the scholarship masterclasses in Penarth.

"I have done stage acting with Mrs Smith at the school which gave me confidence, although I was still a little nervous on the day.

Acting coach Peter Ferris with Erin Hayes (left) and Verity Campbell.

"I was keen to work with Peter, take on any challenges and succeed.

"Winning the scholarship was a surprise. I'd like to pursue acting in the future.

"At school, I've taken part in productions such as *'We Will Rock You'* which is a great show to be in." She is also hoping to be involved in *Les Miserables,* the school's next show.

Erin's mother Catherine said: "Before she went to the masterclass, she read up on what Peter had done in the past. Winning the scholarship is a great opportunity for her to learn more about performing."

Verity Campbell's proud mother Yvette said: "We're very proud that she won the scholarship. I think performing courses like this encourage children's confidence, give them an ability to speak publicly and teach them how to present themselves."

Verity, a pupil at Bryn Hafren in Barry, would consider making a career out of acting too.

"It is something I'd like to do in the future. Actually, it was a big shock to me when I won the scholarship because I felt my second performance wasn't as good as the first.

"I was slightly nervous when I arrived at the masterclass, but then met Jimmy (Webster) my friend and felt better."

Penarth acting coach, Peter Ferris, told The GEM: "Verity performed brilliantly in both of the masterclasses we held and in a scene with Jimmy created a very believable relationship.

"In Erin's scene she found a way of saying a line that was very truthful and really funny.

"Both of these moments left a memorable impression which won each of them a scholarship."

Rhoose Lifeguards pass national qualifications

RHOOSE Lifeguard members Jake Connolly, Emma Cordy, Theo Frangoulis, Charles Grandfield, Storm Morham, Rhys Perry and Alex Varney passed their National Rescue Standard bronze qualification last Saturday.

The awards not only indicate that they have the skills necessary to become beach lifeguards but also allow them to compete competitively for Great Britain in numerous lifesaving championships around the world.

Also Sarah Bryant and Samantha Davies (both within the masters' age group) received their Surf Lifesavers (Welsh Masters) awards, allowing them to coach children, from the age of seven years to 12-years-old, on the beach, in the sea and in the swimming pool as trainee lifeguards.

A tremendous amount of hard work has been undertaken by these members and the coaches, especially trainers Dave Cooper and Karen O'Donaghue Harris, to gain the well deserved awards.

Rhoose Lifeguards have also taken delivery of their new inflatable rescue boat. The club was able to purchase this boat thanks to a grant of £5,000 that was supported by the Vale Centre for Voluntary Services through the 'Kick Start III Grant Scheme'.

Thanks go to Mrs Sian Baron (fundraising officer) for all her hard work in securing grants and organising many fundraising events throughout the year.

The club has spaces available within the Nipper Section. It is especially looking for youngsters aged seven and eight.

Youngsters must be able to swim at least 50m (two lengths of the Fontygary Park or Barry Leisure Centre swimming pool).

If you are interested in joining the Rhoose Surf Lifesaving Club (Nipper Section), during the winter months (November-April) we meet every Friday at the Lifeguard Hut, Fontygary Beach between 6pm-8pm (this session includes a swim in the Fontygary Park swimming pool).

During the summer months (May-October) the club trains on Friday between 6pm-7.30pm on Barry Island beach at the eastern shelter.

On Sunday morning we meet 8am-9am in the Fontygary Park swimming pool all year round.

For further information, visit the club website www.rhooselifeguards.co.uk, or contact: chris@rhooselifeguards.co.uk

ELAINE EDGERTON

Win classic album cover stamps!

WHETHER it's the bent chromed pipe of Mike Oldfield's seminal 70s masterpiece, *Tubular Bells*; the astonishing statues of Pink Floyd's *Division Bell*, or the racing greyhounds of Blur's Britpop classic, *Parklife* – the images on Royal Mail's first set of stamps for 2010 will be instantly recognisable to millions around the world.

Readers of The Glamorgan GEM will be delighted with the presentation pack of ten of the Classic Album Cover stamps, which are on offer in our exciting new stamp competition.

To enter our competition all you have to do is answer the following question:

Blur's classic album is called what:
A. Parklife; B. Pondlife; C. Lowlife?

Send your entries, marked '*Classic Cover stamp competition*', to The Glamorgan GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL, no later than Friday, February 12.

No correspondence will be entered into, and the judge's decision is final. Good luck!

Vale woman's Cardiff display

A VALE artist's work is on show in Cardiff as part of an all-woman show to celebrate International Womens' day.

The show runs until March 9 at the Off The Wall gallery. Natalie Hooper, who lives in Marcross, said: "It is fitting that my work celebrates the female form.

Natalie has just gained a distinction from City & Guilds in Printmaking but is best known for her life drawings and photography.

She said: "The camera is a creative tool which I use to exploit moments that are gone before I could draw them - and it's such fun.

"My years as a teacher and as a mum of four young children do help."

She has just moved to Marcross from Bedfordshire with her Neath-born husband and four daughters.

She added: "It's new arena for me and very exciting. Wales is wonderful and I have had such a warm and friendly welcome."

Concert 'to help eradicate polio'

COWBRIDGE Male Voice Choir will be performing at a charity concert on Saturday, February 27, at 7.30pm in Llantwit Major Comprehensive School.

The concert is being held on behalf of the Rotary Club of Llantwit Major as part of the club's efforts towards the eradication of polio worldwide.

In addition to the choir, there will be two young local musicians taking part, cellist Ben Tarlton from Llantwit Major and soprano Daisy Evans from Sigingstone.

Tickets cost £7.50 and are available in Llantwit Major from Cloggs Footwear and Gwyneth Morgan Optometrist, and in Cowbridge from Quills stationery shop.

TC

Haiti appeal rock concert

A GROUP of Vale musicians have pulled together to organise a benefit rock concert to raise money for the Haiti disaster appeal.

Local singer Aubrey Parsons, and guitarist Mark Pontin have arranged four of the area's top bands to perform for free at The Duke Of Wellington, Cowbridge, on Sunday, February 7, at 6pm.

Co-organiser Mark Pontin stated: "I was in Paris when I saw the news of the earthquake, and the sheer devastation, coupled with the tranquil surroundings I was in made me think of ways to try and help, in any small way that I could.

"As soon as I returned home, I contacted Aubrey and we began to organise this event to raise money for the DEC appeal".

All the musicians and organisers have given their time for free, and Mark, landlord of The Duke, provides the medieval ballroom free of charge.

Appearing will be singer-songwriter Sophie Hansen, Swansea-based band Cocamama, Aubrey Parsons singing a solo set, blues-rock outfit MPG, and long standing Cowbridge band The Watchmen.

Admission charge is £10 per person and goes straight to the appeal. There is a strict 150 attendance limit for health and safety reasons, so the organisers advise an early arrival.

Win a free tour of Cosmeston!

'WHAT it means to be Welsh' is the theme for a special St David's Day competition organised by Cosmeston medieval village.

Schools and educational groups are being invited to ask their students to submit their thoughts, and entries can be in English or Welsh and as short as a small paragraph, but no more than 1,000 words.

Indeed, it all depends on how much room is needed to express a sense of Welshness! Entries must be sent to Cosmeston medieval village by St David's Day, (March 1) and the winner will receive a free tour with activities for their class or group, and a season ticket giving free family entry to the village in 2010.

The competition is restricted to under 18-year-olds, and submissions must be sent to: Cosmeston medieval village, Lavernock Road, Penarth CF64 5UY.

Welsh Blood Service

THE forthcoming Welsh Blood Service sessions are:

Vale of Glamorgan: Old Pioneers Hall, Beryl Road, Barry, February 9 – 10am-12.30pm and 2pm-6pm; The Old School, South Road, Sully, February 11 – 10am-6pm; Llantwit Major Youth Centre, Station Road, Llantwit Major, February 15 – 10am-6pm; February 16 – 10am-6pm.

Bridgend: Brackla Community Centre, Whitethorn Drive, The Triangle, Brackla, February 19 – 10am-6pm; Mobile Donation Clinic, Bridgend Designer Outlet, The Derwen, Bridgend, February 26 – 10.45am-2pm and 3.30pm-6.30pm.

(To attend this session, it is advisable to make an appointment as these donors will take priority. Please call 01443 622193 or e-mail donor.appointments@wbs.wales.nhs.uk to make one.)

If anyone misses a session, telephone 0800 252266, or visit www.welshbloodservice.org.uk

Hearing Aid Exhibition

DO YOU NEED THE TV LOUDER?
DO YOU FIND IT DIFFICULT TO FOLLOW CONVERSATIONS?
DO YOU FIND PEOPLE MUMBLE?

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Hearing Wales will be holding Hearing Exhibitions

between 10am and 2pm at the following venues:

Tuesday, 9th February
Lesser Hall,
Town Hall, COWBRIDGE

Thursday, 11th February
Memorial Hall,
Gladstone Street, BARRY

Come and see displays of the smallest hearing aids in the world and find out about the latest in hearing aid Digital Technology.
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For more details, phone or write to us at the above address

DIGITAL SWITCHOVER

FOUR PAGE SUPPLEMENT

Get set for switchover

With just weeks to go until the first analogue TV signals are switched off in Cardiff, Newport and south east Wales, The GEM has teamed up with Digital UK to provide readers with this special guide to the digital TV switchover.

What is switchover and when is it happening?

Digital TV switchover is the biggest change in television since the introduction of colour. Analogue signals will be switched off and replaced with new digital services. This will make Freeview available for the first time to thousands of homes watching local 'relay' transmitters in areas such as Pontypool, Rhondda and Ebbw Vale.

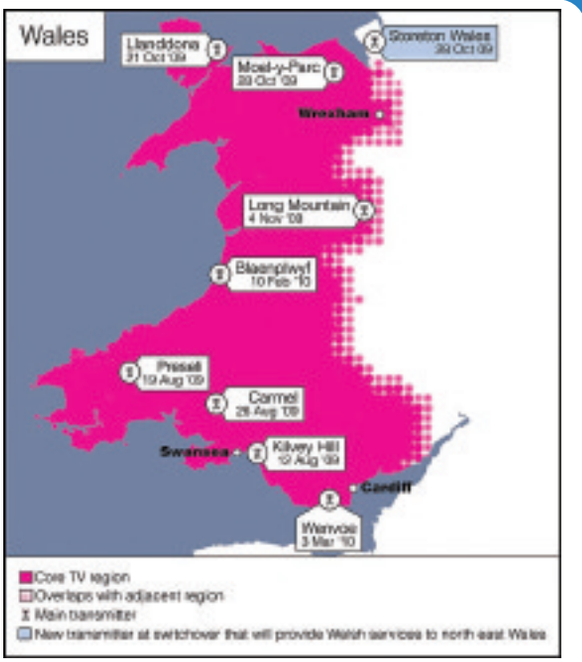
Switching off the analogue network will also allow digital signals to be boosted to full strength, improving reception for many viewers already watching Freeview, Top Up TV and BT Vision.

To continue receiving TV after switchover, analogue sets will need to be converted using a digital box or replaced with a new digital television.

Switchover for the Wenvoe transmitter group, serving Cardiff, Newport and south east Wales, will happen in two stages on March 3 and March 31, 2010. Some readers may receive their TV signal from a different transmitter group which will switch on at a different date. You can check when you switch by using the postcode checker on the Digital UK website at digitaluk.co.uk or by calling 08456 505050. A Welsh language helpline is available on 08458 48 48 48.

Digital UK, the independent organisation set up by the broadcasters, provides a helpline and website to help with general questions about getting digital TV and preparing for the switchover.

Emyr Byron Hughes, Digital UK's National Manager for Wales, says: "Switchover will change forever how television is broadcast. I'm delighted that, very soon, viewers who have previously been unable to get Freeview services will be able to do so for the first time. Most people are well prepared; but for those who still have questions, we are here to help."



How will switchover happen?

Switchover will happen in two stages. If you currently receive your TV signal through an aerial, in either analogue or digital format (e.g. Freeview, Top Up TV, BT Vision), then you'll need to make a note of the information below. Televisions connected to a cable or satellite service are not affected.

Stage one – March 3, 2010:

In the early hours, analogue BBC Two will be switched off and replaced with a new digital signal. Local 'relay' TV transmitters will also start to broadcast the BBC's other digital channels for the first time.

Readers switching to digital for the first time via Freeview, Top Up TV or BT Vision will now be able to set up their equipment. Homes already watching these services should **retune their digital boxes or IDTVs.**

Also on this day, due to a change in broadcast frequencies, some viewers may find that ITV1 moves to button 2 on the remote control. All the analogue channels will be switched off permanently, however, at stage two.

Stage two – March 31, 2010:

All remaining analogue channels will be switched off and replaced with additional digital services. Everyone watching Freeview, Top Up TV or BT Vision will need to retune their equipment again to receive all available channels.

What time will services be switched on?

On both dates, these changes will happen overnight. For most viewers, services will be restored by the morning. Households receiving their TV signal from local relay transmitters will receive new digital services later in the day and should tune in for the first time or retune from this point.

Getting digital TV

Most households in Wales are already enjoying digital TV on at least one set in the home. If you're still only receiving five or fewer analogue channels through an aerial on any of your sets, you'll need to think about converting them for switchover. If you don't, you risk being faced with a blank screen once analogue signals are switched off.

There are three main ways to go digital:

- Convert your existing analogue TV using a digital box (e.g. Freeview, Top Up TV or BT Vision).
- Have a digital TV service, such as satellite, cable or broadband TV, installed for you. Providers include Sky, freesat, Virgin Media and Tiscali TV.
- Buy a new TV with digital (Freeview or freesat) built in.

Remember, almost everyone will be able to watch Freeview after switchover – even homes currently out of coverage. If you choose to get television this way you'll be able to receive BBC One, BBC Two, ITV1, S4C, Channel 4 and Five, plus a range of other channels and interactive services. The exact number of channels will depend on which transmitter supplies your signal. If you can't currently receive Freeview, you won't be able to tune in until the signal starts up in your area.

You can check the options for going digital in your area and the channels you'll be able to receive via an aerial using the postcode checker on the Digital UK website at digitaluk.co.uk. Extra channels are available through other digital TV services, such as satellite or cable.

Virtually any TV set, including black and white ones and those without Scart sockets, can be converted using a digital box. If you're buying new TV equipment, look for the 'digital tick' logo. This identifies products designed to continue working through the switchover.

Digital TV also provides on-screen TV listings, widescreen pictures and red-button interactive services. Viewers who are deaf or hard-of-hearing will be able to enjoy additional subtitled programming, while those who are blind or partially sighted can benefit from audio description services, providing a commentary on what's happening on screen.

Hotels, B&Bs, caravan parks and other areas of the tourism industry will also need to convert their televisions to digital. Advice for landlords and other property managers is available on the Digital UK website at digitaluk.co.uk/propertymanagers.

digitaluk.co.uk **08456 50 50 50** **get set for digital**

The Switchover Help Scheme...

THOUSANDS of people in Wales have already taken up help from the Switchover Help Scheme. Run by the BBC under an agreement with the Government, it's an official scheme which makes switchover easy for older and disabled people by giving practical help to switch one TV in their home. Now's the time to contact the Help Scheme if you're eligible and you want help in time for switchover.

People are eligible for the Help Scheme if they are:

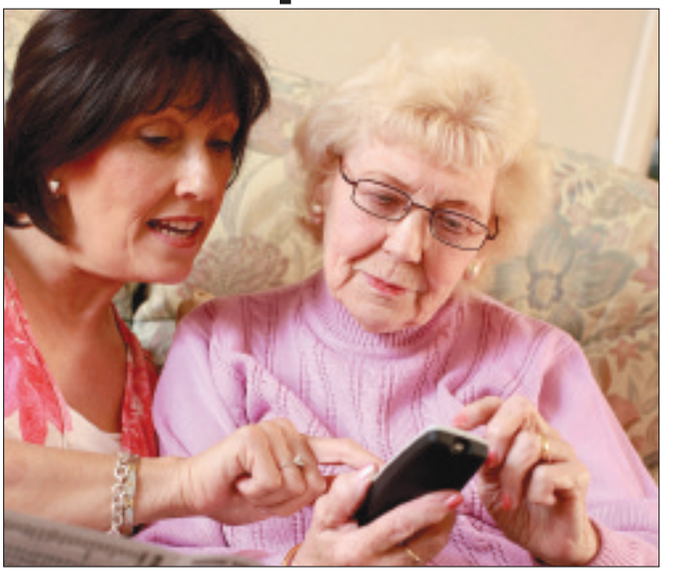
- aged 75 years or over;
- eligible for attendance or constant attendance allowance, or mobility supplement, or disability living allowance;
- registered blind or partially sighted;
- or have been living in a care home for six months or more.

If you're eligible, you will be offered equipment that's easy to use, delivery or installation and a demonstration of how to use it, together with a choice of options. We will also check your aerial and upgrade it where we can, if it's needed. Importantly, there is a freephone number to call for help while you get used to things.

The Help Scheme has been specially designed with older and disabled people in mind and offers a high standard of service, such as fixed appointment times and installers trained to take extra care in your home.

Most people will be asked to pay £40 towards the standard offer of help. For eligible people on income-related benefits, it's free. Eligible people can also choose from a range of other Help Scheme options, sometimes at a higher cost.

If you know an older or disabled person who might still need help to switch to digital TV, you could lend a helping hand and give them the message about the Switchover Help Scheme. Even if they have digital TV already, they can get help to switch another TV set in their home.



The Switchover Help Scheme helps 'those most in need to switch to digital television'.

All you need to do to get the help is respond to the information pack which has been sent to every eligible person's home. But you must respond to get the help. It won't be available forever. The Help Scheme will close for applications in Wales on 30 April 2010.

Face-to-face advice

Digital UK has been working closely with charities to organise local advice points on the day of – and the day after – switchover. These will be staffed by trained volunteers.

Anyone can visit a clinic, including people who don't qualify for the Switchover Help Scheme.

There are also Digital UK road-shows in the region. To find out where your local advice or roadshow will be, visit digitaluk.co.uk/wales or call 08456 50 50 50.

switchover help scheme

Choosing your preferred services

TV signals in parts of Wales overlap with those from England, and this will continue to be the case after switchover. After a retune, if you are seeing English BBC or ITV services at the top of your channel list, you are likely to find Welsh services further down. You can make these easier to find by using the 'favourites' list option on your digital TV or box. See your instruction manual for more details. Alternatively, you can manually retune your equipment to pick up specific services from your local transmitter. Advice on retuning is available at digitaluk.co.uk/retuning and on 08456 505050. A Welsh language helpline is available on 08458 48 48 48.

What if I've already got digital TV?

Viewers already watching Freeview, Top Up TV or BT Vision will need to retune on both switchover dates in order to continue receiving all available channels. Cable and satellite services are not affected by switchover. You'll also need to think about converting any other sets in your home and consider any recording equipment.

If you're buying a box to convert your main TV, consider getting a digital TV recorder with a 'twin tuner'. As well as making your television ready for switchover, some models will let you record two digital channels at once. Ask your local electrical retailer about which kind of digital TV recorder is best for you.

digitaluk.co.uk **08456 50 50 50** **get set for digital**

Know someone who needs a helping hand switching to digital TV?

The Switchover Help Scheme is here to help everyone aged 75 and over, or disabled people, by providing the equipment and practical support needed to switch one TV to digital.

If you know someone who is eligible, make sure they get the help they are entitled to. Tell them to call us free on **0800 40 85 900** or go to **helpscheme.co.uk**

switchover help scheme

BBC The Help Scheme is run by the BBC

DIGITAL SWITCHOVER

FOUR PAGE SUPPLEMENT

YOUR GUIDE TO MAKING THE SWITCH TO DIGITAL TV AS PAINLESS AS POSSIBLE

How will switchover affect my recording equipment?

It's not just your TV which may be affected by switchover: recorders may need updating too.

When the switch to all-digital signals takes place, video and analogue DVD recorders will still play back and record, but you won't be able to record one channel while you watch another. If you want to continue doing this after switchover, the simplest way is to get a digital TV recorder.

There are three types of digital TV recorder: a recorder that records onto a hard drive; a recorder that records onto a DVD; a recorder that allows you to do both.

What are the main benefits of getting a hard drive digital TV recorder?

In addition to being able to watch one channel while recording another, upgrading to a digital TV recorder will give you the following benefits:

- **Record at the touch of a button - no tapes or timers required.**
- **Pause and rewind live TV.**
- **Record a whole series at once.**
- **On-screen electronic programme guide.**

What to buy?

You don't need to buy a new television for switchover. Virtually any TV – even black-and-white ones – can be converted with a digital box. If your set doesn't have a Scart socket, ask your retailer for a box with an "RF modulator".

But if you are buying any new TV equipment, always look for the 'digital tick' logo, which shows a product is designed to continue working after switchover.

If you're buying a box to convert your main TV, consider getting a digital TV recorder with a 'twin tuner'. As well as making your television ready for switchover, some models will let you record two digital channels at once. Ask your local electrical retailer about which kind of digital TV recorder is best for you.

What if I need work on my aerial?

Most rooftop aerials will be fine after switchover but a small proportion of aerials are likely to need replacing.

Some set-top aerials may also need to be replaced. You can check whether your existing aerial is likely to be suitable for receiving digital by visiting the aerial test page on teletext page 484.

If you do need a new aerial, you should expect to pay around £60-£180 for a standard installation. Remember, never let 'cold-callers' offering aerial services into your home. Neither Digital UK nor the Switchover Help Scheme will ever visit you without prior notice and proof of identity. Also, be aware there is no such thing as a 'digital aerial'. If you feel you have been a victim of unscrupulous traders or installers, call the Consumer Direct helpline on 0845 404 05 06 for free impartial advice on your rights.

Never attempt to adjust a rooftop aerial yourself. Look for a Registered Digital Installer (RDI) with the 'digital tick' logo. This means they have been trained and security checked. Go to rdi-lb.tv/installers.html or call Digital UK on 0845 650 50 50 for more information. If you can't find an RDI locally, look for someone with Associate RDI or CAI Plus status – or ask your local electrical retailer.

If you live in a flat and share your aerial with others then you may have a communal TV system. If so, it may need to be adapted to receive digital TV. Your landlord or managing agent should be aware of this and be making plans but you may want to check.

In certain areas, changes to the frequencies used to broadcast digital TV may mean viewers need to replace their aerials in order to receive all the available channels. In particular, a minority of homes receiving their signal from the Cwmfelinfach or Usk transmitters may need a new aerial in order to receive all the digital channels available.

Digital UK recommends that you wait until after switchover to see if your aerial needs replacing in order to avoid having unnecessary work carried out.

How to install a digital box

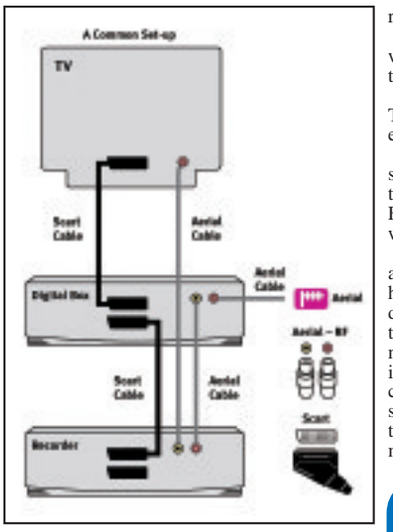
Switching to digital television is simple and needn't be expensive.

If you choose to get digital TV through an aerial – Freeview, Top Up TV, or BT Vision – it's reasonably straightforward to connect the digital box yourself. The illustration shows you how.

First, make sure your TV is unplugged from the electricity supply and don't switch the supply back on again until all the equipment is reconnected.

Once the TV is disconnected, plug in any Scart and aerial cables needed and then reconnect your equipment to the mains. Finally, turn on your TV and then your digital box. You may now be prompted by your box to scan for digital channels. If so, simply follow the on-screen instructions. If not, follow the instructions that came with your equipment to tune into digital channels.

You're now ready to enjoy digital TV.



How to retune your digital box or digital television

Viewers watching Freeview, Top Up TV or BT Vision will need to a full retune their equipment at both stages of switchover in order to continue receiving services. Retuning is also required from time to time to access new channels as they become available.

To do a full retune your Freeview, Top Up TV or BT Vision equipment, follow these steps (these instructions are a guide only – each product works slightly differently).

Switch on your digital box or digital television

Press 'menu' on the remote control

Select 'set up' or 'installation' option

Select 'first time installation' option (sometimes called 'factory reset', 'full retune' or 'default settings')

Press "OK" if your equipment asks if you want to delete all your channels - don't worry this is normal.

Channels will be automatically installed. This may take a few minutes, and your equipment may shut down and restart.

The Digital UK website has a short video showing you how to retune, and specific retuning instructions for the most popular Freeview products. Go to www.digitaluk.co.uk/retuning

If you need help with retuning, find you are missing some channels or your equipment has stopped working, visit digitaluk.co.uk/retuning for more information. If you can't fix this yourself, you may need to call out an installer. Make sure the installer you choose has been security checked and trained. Your instruction manual should give you full information on how to retune and set favourites. If you can't find your manual, please contact the manufacturer.

This feature is brought to you by The GEM in conjunction with Digital UK.

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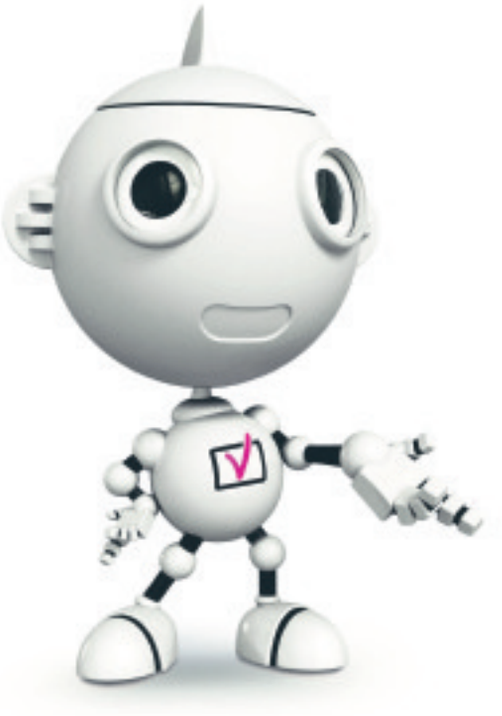
Dear reader,



There are now just a few weeks to go until the Wenvoe transmitter group, serving Cardiff, Newport and south east Wales, starts its switch to digital on **3 March**.

For anyone who receives TV through an aerial and plans to switch using a Freeview TV or box* there are two important stages to remember:

3 March – Switchover stage one:

The switchover begins. Analogue BBC Two will be switched off permanently, and the higher powered BBC digital services will launch. All Freeview TVs and boxes will need to be installed or re-tuned at this point.

31 March – Switchover stage two:

On 31 March the remaining analogue channels will be switched off and the rest of the digital services launched. All Freeview TVs and boxes will need to be re-tuned again.

Switchover will make Freeview available to virtually every home in this area, including those that can't currently receive it, as it allows the digital signal to be strengthened and transmitted for the first time from the 75 local relay transmitters. This will mean that everyone can get around 15 channels, and will also provide additional services such as audio description for viewers with disabilities. Those who receive satellite and cable TV however, will not be affected by this change.

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Dull Mel Gibson thriller takes viewer to the 'Edge' of despair!

SCREEN TALK

by GARETH JAMIESON

HAVING built up a career with the likes of *Mad Max*, the *Lethal Weapon* franchise and, of course, *Braveheart*, it seemed Mel Gibson's leading man life had ended with 2002's *Signs*.

Opting to stay behind the camera, Gibson directed the controversial yet financially-successful *The Passion of the Christ,* and *Apocalypto*, a film that was undermined by the bad publicity accrued when Gibson was arrested for drunk-driving, accused of anti-semitic behaviour and coining a phrase that for Dave Coaches in Gavin & Stacey is a term of endearment.

However, Gibson now returns to the front of the camera for *Casino Royale* director Martin Campbell in *Edge of Darkness*.

Based on a 1985 BBC miniseries (also directed by Campbell), it sees Gibson play Thomas Craven, a detective whose daughter (Bojana Novakovic) is gunned down in front of him.

Originally thinking that he was the target, he soon learns that his daughter was an activist with links to a shadowy defence organisation.

As he finds himself further embroiled in what his daughter was doing, he is contacted by a shadowy man named Jedburgh (Ray Winstone), whose murky motives will either help or hinder Craven's investigation...

Dubious religious views aside, I'm sure I'm not the only one who has missed seeing Mel Gibson on screen these last eight years.

With performances that bristle with charisma coupled with a strong acting ethic and a varied CV, Gibson is certainly one of cinema's more notable performers.

That being said, it will take more than the limp Edge of Darkness to bring Gibson back to the level with which he was once accustomed, because despite the actor's best intentions, he can't quite get to grips with a film that is lacklustre in the extreme.

It doesn't help that Gibson is a touch rusty in front of the camera, offering a performance that is solid yet lacking any real spectacle.

It seems odd he doesn't do more with the role, particularly as takes in elements of many of his previous characters - a splash of Riggs from *Lethal Weapon*, a drop of Tom Mullen from *Ransom*, a pinch of Porter from *Payback* - but whether it's a lack of faith in the material or just a case of nerves, his turn is hit and miss.

Excelling in the emotional scenes, Gibson captures the anger, confusion and sadness of the situation he finds himself in, bringing an old-school attitude to his detective, knowing that bending the rules can only help in finding who is responsible for killing his daughter.

When he has to get angry and violent, however, Gibson flounders in a sea of grimaces and gritted teeth, failing to convey the passion of his character's need to find his daughter's killer.

The performances around Gibson are similarly inconsistent, with Ray Winstone doing his best gritty Cockney but failing to have anything overly meaningful to do in a script that wastes his talents considerably.

The scenes he shares with Gibson rattle along nicely, but his character is never fully explained and seems too perfunctory to the plot, all the more surprising given that Winstone replaced Robert De Niro early on in the shoot.

Both Danny Huston, as the head of the shadowy organisation who know more about Craven's daughter than they let on, and the underrated Denis O'Hare are given short shrift, the importance of their characters in the overall scheme of things paling in relation to the amount of screentime they receive.

Given his knowledge of the story, Martin Campbell has a good go at bringing this big screen version to life, yet finds himself caught in the trap of being unable to really liven up proceedings.

With its dark hues and constant rain, he creates a dark and shadowy world that is reflected in the storyline, but there is little invention in his direction, with the odd action set-piece feeling tired and seemingly thrown in to alleviate another scene of exposition.

Campbell is certainly a skilled director - after all he resuscitated the James Bond franchise not once, but twice - but he offers little that is fresh or exciting here.

It is a criticism that can be similarly levelled at screenwriters William Monahan (*The Departed*) and Andrew Bovell, who manage to make the film far too complicated and murky, giving characters such as those played by Winston, Huston and O'Hare little in the way of screentime or motivation.

They also fail to satisfactorily edit down the six-hour original's story into a two-hour film, with several pivotal scenes of Craven working his way up the food chain to his daughter's killers cut to the bare bones and failing to satisfy the needs of the story.

Having not seen the original I can only assume that it fares much better than what is on show here; notable certainly for Mel Gibson's first big screen outing in eight years, there is little else it will be remembered for; Edge of Darkness? More like the edge of despair!

VERDICT - A poor film that feels underwhelming. Edge of Darkness' only real positive is that it gets Mel Gibson back in front of the camera. While not at his best, his hit and miss performance is the only positive you can take out of a film that is lacking in nearly all areas. Poor.

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HISTORY SLIDE SHOW

THE Dinas Powys Local History Society will be holding its next meeting on February 9, to be held in the Kynance Church Hall, on the edge of Dinas Powys Common at 7.30pm.

Jonathan Berry will give the talk and show slides on 20th century military sites in south Wales.

All are welcome to attend. An administrative charge will be made at the door to cover running expenses.

For further information, please contact the programme secretary, Jan Gray, on 01446 701273.

LEGION MEETS

THE next meeting of the Royal British Legion (Barry Branch) will be on February 8 at 2.30pm in the Mayor's Parlour, Barry Memorial Hall.

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JEREMY WILLCOCK has applied for the variation of a premises licence pursuant to Sections 34/37 of the Licensing Act 2003 for the following licensing activities at The Mount Sorrel Hotel, Porthkerry Road, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan.
The application is to vary the premises licence to provide live music, recorded music, performance of dance, dancing, each day of the week from 1200 hrs to 0230 hrs; the provision of late night refreshments every day of the week on 2200 hrs to 0230 hrs and the sale by retail of alcohol every day of the week from 1000hrs to 0300 hrs
This application also includes the removal of a number of converted conditions.
The application can be inspected at the Vale of Glamorgan Council Licensing Section, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU.
Any interested party responsible authority may make representations to the relevant Licensing Authority by March 3, 2010.
Any representation shall be made in writing.
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Funeral arrangements later, enquiries to A. G. Adams & Son, Barry. Tel: 01446 735400.

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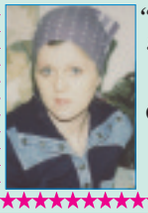

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Lost & Found

HEARING AID FOUND
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Contact:
Cowbridge Police Station
01656 869450

FOUND
in Eastgate, Cowbridge on January 29th, 2010
Black Leather Glove
(right hand) with red stitching.
Contact
01446 774484

FOUND
In Cowbridge on January 31, 2010.
Tame, black, long-haired cat with green eyes
Contact
07967 388264

NEWS FROM PENARTH AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS

Taking the Taff Trail – in the virgin snow!

RECENTLY, Peter had to cancel his planned walk due to illness, and we hope he has now recovered.

At very short notice, Clive and Jeff stepped in to share a walk to take advantage of the better weather, starting at the Black Cock Inn.

Joined by Pam and Krys and Paul at the pub where Pam's multi-coloured socks (following gifts received at Christmas) were shown off and greatly admired, the small group set off on what turned out to be a very pleasant six-mile walk in surprisingly good weather.

They made their way through Fforest Fawr (great forest) a lovely wood containing broad-leaved trees which is classed as a Site of Special Interest, and surrounds the fairy-tale Castell Coch, perched above the Taff gorge.

They dropped down to join the Taff Trail, opened in 1988 as a walking and cycling route that follows much of the old Taff Vale railway line and the disused Glamorgan Canal.

Both were built during the 18th and 19th centuries to transport coal and iron ore from Merthyr Tydfil and the Rhondda Valley down to the docks at Cardiff and Barry.

Stopping at a vantage point along the trail for an early lunch, they had good views of Garth Hill and away to the north, towards the central Brecon Beacons.

Further along the trail it was time to leave the flat track and do some climbing as they approached the base of Craig yr Allt.

They climbed gradually to the top of the hill which stands at 273-metres (896-feet) and at the top had brilliant views towards Caerphilly in the east, and nestling below them to the west, Nantgarw and Taffs Well.

The Taff Ely Ridgeway Walk passes across the top of the hill and, as they walked on, those at the front were treading in virgin snow, which is always a thrill, walking where no one else has trodden!

Someone, somewhere, was experiencing rain because the group had a great view of an arched rainbow high in the sky, before they moved on, gazing down on Caerphilly Castle, until it was time to descend into the valley.

All that was left was to make their way back to the Black Cock, where they took advantage of the hospitality on offer and enjoyed hot drinks before the journey home.

Wear suitable clothing, preferably boots and carry waterproofs, food and drinks. Some degree of fitness is required and if you are in any doubt, then please contact the walk leader for advice. For other groups' walk log onto www.ramblers.org.uk

Rucksack badges, programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2021 9102.

JOY STRANGWARD

Tim's a 'crackerjackpot' Ty Hafan lottery winner

A DELIGHTED Mr Tim Howells from Bridgend became the first person to win the rollover prize in Ty Hafan's Crackerjackpot lottery, scooping a magnificent £5,000!

Left to right: Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot manager David Griffiths with Mr Tim Howells.

The family hospice for young lives, which operates the largest hospice lottery in the UK, has refreshed its prize structure this year by re-arranging the weekly prize pool of £3,000 to provide an opportunity for a bigger prize and for more winners.

The first prize of £2,000 remains the same, but a new rollover prize has been developed which starts at £500 and grows by that amount each week, to a maximum of £12,000 – or until the lucky winning number comes up.

Crackerjackpot provides a reliable and consistent source of income to the hospice, ensuring that Ty Hafan can continue offering, free of charge, its vital services to life-limited children, young people and their families from across the Wales.

For more information on how you can join visit www.crackerjackpot.co.uk or call 029 2067 2062.

Feedback sought on the Vale's tourism strategy

RESIDENTS are being invited to help shape the vision of tourism in the Vale by giving their feedback to a new tourism strategy for the area.

Produced by the Vale Council, the 'Draft Tourism Strategy 2010-2015' outlines key objectives for the next five years, and comments are being sought as part of a consultation exercise, which runs until February 26.

The Vale Council's cabinet member for leisure and tourism, Coun Anthony Ernest, said: "The council has a strong commitment to tourism and recognises its very considerable importance to the local economy.

"This document identifies the council's aims for developing tourism further in the Vale and I invite local business people and residents to read the strategy and give their feedback."

You can view the draft strategy online at www.visitthevale.com

COWBRIDGE JUNIOR AND MINI RUGBY ROUND-UP

Three out of three in the Blues Cup!

Under-9s

AFTER a 10-week break of no rugby due to the weather, Cowbridge under-9s came up against a well organised and physical Pentyrch side.

Cowbridge started very strongly but could not break down the defence of their opponents and it looked as if it was going to be a very tight battle.

As the game went on, Cowbridge forwards Iestyn Fenn, Ben Jones and Lewis Hawke started to make ground and it was only a matter of time before Cowbridge would cross the try line. This came through several phases of play by the forwards and went through every set of hands in the backs for Ben Batten to finish the move superbly.

As half-time approached, due to the increased pressure the boys were putting on their opponents, a mistake by the visitors allowed man-of-the-match Ben Jones to go crashing over to leave the half-time score two tries to nil.

In the second half, Pentyrch got straight back into the game with a fine try of their own to put pressure back on their hosts, but from the kick-off, Cowbridge flying centre Barny ran from his own half for a fantastic solo effort to put the home side 3-1 up.

With a great platform being set by the forwards, this gave the boys in the backs some room to move the ball, with Jack Dixon going on a snaking run to score a well deserved try.

As the game entered the final few minutes, a run by Ben Jones saw the wing forward running three-quarters of the length of the pitch, breaking through at least half a dozen tackles to go over in the corner for the team's fifth try.

Just as the game came to a close, a further try by Barny put the home side into a commanding 6-1 lead. The scoreline did not deter the visitors, as they kept playing great rugby until the final whistle and were rewarded with a fine try, to leave the final score six tries to two to the ever-improving Cowbridge side.

Under-10s

AFTER nine weeks of frustration, the under-10s were finally able to line up for a difficult Blues Cup encounter with local rivals, Pontyclun.

Cowbridge kicked off and from a superb restart, Bevan Howells gathered the ball and stormed towards the opposition line. Fine tackling from the Pontyclun boys held Cowbridge at bay, but the tone was set for the rest of the game.

The forwards were quicker to the breakdown than their bigger opposite numbers and were able to provide a stream of good, quality ball for the half backs.

The ball was shifted at pace to both flanks, and Rhydian Williams opened the scoring with a trademark mazy run in to the corner.

From the restart, Pontyclun attempted to make use of their bigger forward pack. However, the Cowbridge boys' defence was superb and they repeatedly halted the opposition and proceeded to turn ball over.

Bevan Howells added the next score following superb work in the loose. Shortly before half-time, the forwards once again recycled quality ball and Ioan Lewis fed Rhydian Williams to increase the lead.

The second half started with Pontyclun showing incredible bravery as they tackled everything that was thrown at them. Eventually the pressure told and Rhydian Williams secured his hat trick.

Pontyclun then enjoyed their best spell of possession but Sam Corkill, Jac Roberts, Jake Griffiths, Max Lucas and Max Cunnington were superb up front and managed to slow any quality ball the opposition had.

The Cowbridge backs were clinical and opened up another opportunity for Evan Williams to add the fifth try of the match.

As the final whistle drew near, Luke Beattie picked up a loose ball on halfway. The robust winger then beat three defenders to score the final try of the day, and secure a superb victory for Cowbridge.

Final score: Cowbridge 30 Pontyclun 0

Full squad: Angus James, Bevan Howells, Cameron Roy, Dan Taylor, Dylan Lloyd-Doyle, Ellis Bird, Evan Williams, Ioan Lewis, Jac Roberts, Jake Griffiths, James Guard, Josh Lloyd-Doyle, Liam Murphy, Luke Beattie, Max Cunnington, Max Lucas, Oliver Reynolds, Rhydian Williams, Rhys Davies, Sam Corkill, Tom Jose.

Under-10s at Bridgend

THE boys made their way to Newbridge Fields for a local derby with old rivals Bridgend Athletic.

Due to the overnight frost, the kick-off was delayed by an hour to give the ground extra time to thaw out. Despite this, the surface was very firm as Rhydian Williams kicked off.

The early encounters all took place in the Athletic half as Cowbridge applied the early pressure. The physicality shown by both teams at the contact area was ferocious, but Cowbridge were enjoying the majority of possession.

The Cowbridge forwards then put together a sensational passage of play that took them deep into the opposition territory and Luke Beattie powered past the cover defence to open the scoring.

From the restart, Bridgend enjoyed their best passage of possession and scored the leveller with an excellent try in the corner.

Cowbridge then upped their game and were once again dominating possession and territory. After more superb work up front, Cameron Roy and Dan Marshall drove in to the Bridgend half.

Sam Corkill picked and drove to get over the gain line before Evan Williams released Rhydian Williams, who outstripped the Bridgend defence to regain the lead for Cowbridge.

Half-time: Bridgend Athletic 5 Cowbridge 10.

Bridgend kicked off the second half and regained possession following good work from their forwards. They then launched a series of attacks but were thwarted by magnificent defence, with Bevan Howells, Jac Roberts and Rhydian Williams outstanding.

Cowbridge forced the play back to halfway but from a good turn over, Bridgend ran in a superb try from the halfway.

The coaches now looked for a good response from the boys as they sought to regain the lead for the third time in the match. They would not be disappointed as Cowbridge forced the Athletic back over their own in goal area thanks to some superb blitz defence.

Athletic had no option but to concede a five-metre scrum. Cowbridge ran a blindside move with the impressive Bevan Howells dragging in three defenders to hold him up short of the line. However, the ball was presented perfectly for the ever-present Jac Roberts to burst over the line for the winning try.

Final score: Bridgend Athletic 10 Cowbridge 15.

Both sides then agreed to play another 15 minutes to enable all the boys to take the field. This would prove to be a slightly one side affair as the Bridgend team fielded the majority of the ' Athletic Yellows'. Despite this it proved to be no less committed than the first game, with every player from both side giving their all.

Cowbridge took an early lead with two tries from Rhydian Williams before the Athletic hit back with an excellent score of their own. Cowbridge extended the lead with scores from Evan Williams and Max Lucas to give a half-time score of Bridgend Athletic Yellows 5 Cowbridge 20.

The second half continued in a similar vein to the first with Cowbridge a little quicker and more aggressive at the break down. This was giving the impressive Cowbridge backs the space and time to show their skills and Rhys Davies added the next with a try engineered from his own half.

While Cowbridge continued to dominate, the Bridgend boys' heads never went down and they battled on gamely throughout the half. Luke Beattie added to the score with the finishing touch to a good move before Max Cunnington, Bevan Howells and finally Evan Williams completed the scoring.

Full time: Bridgend Athletic 5 Cowbridge 45.

The coaches were extremely pleased with the performance from the boys today and the Bridgend Athletic coaches and parents, were extremely complimentary of the style and commitment of the Cowbridge players. Many thanks to all at Bridgend Athletic for their extremely warm welcome as always. Thanks to all the parents and relatives for your continued support.

Full squad; Angus James, Bevan Howells, Cameron Roy, Dan Marshall, Evan Williams, Jac Roberts, James Guard, Luke Beattie, Max Cunnington, Max Lucas, Rhydian Williams, Rhys Davies, Sam Corkill.

Under-11s take on Barry in Blues Cup

COWBRIDGE progressed to the quarter finals of the Blues Cup with comprehensive win at Barry.

The visitors were quickly off the mark with a well-taken try by Cai Evans. Then a quick throw-in at a line-out saw Duncan Ace score, followed by an excellent offload from Dan Bunney, which resulted in Rhys Barnard scoring Cowbridge's third try.

Slick handling among the backs led to a try by Toff Patel. Brave tackling by Osian John and James Holder prevented a brief rally from the home side before two further tries from Cai Evans and Toff Patel gave Cowbridge a 42-0 lead at half-time.

Six changes were made to the Cowbridge team for the second half, and within a minute a great offload from Mikey Thomas resulted in a Charlie Pegrum try. Matthew Keating and James Walters worked tirelessly to establish a platform for the next try, scored by Cai Evans.

Duncan Ace then scored three tries within five minutes to take his tally to four. All the tries were converted by Cai Evans as Cowbridge completed one of their best displays of the season.

Under-12s in Blues Cup too!

COWBRIDGE under-12s hosted Merthyr for a fiercely contested match with both sides determined to progress in the Blues Cup.

Merthyr started strongly and used their sizeable pack to good advantage to keep Cowbridge pinned in their own 25 metre area for the first 12 minutes.

However, the Cowbridge boys would not give an inch, and from a breakdown the ball was stolen in the pack and shipped along the line to Tom Trotman, whose mazy powerful run from the half way line resulted in a try – the conversion was missed for a 5-0 lead.

The Cowbridge team were now in full stride and the remainder of the first half was played in Merthyr territory with great pressure being put on the try line.

The Cowbridge back row of Luke John, Ben Jones and Josh Brace had been flying at the Merthyr backs all game and their speed and workrate paid off when Ben charged down a kick, collected the rebound and scored another try on 18 minutes, which again went unconverted.

Cowbridge kept the pressure up and on 25 minutes, Frazz McGann charged down another loose Merthyr kick and piled over the try-line after a barnstorming 25-metre run – Matt Harper converted to make the score 17-0 at half-time.

The second half turned out to be a gritty affair with much of the game being played in the Cowbridge half.

As usual, the Cowbridge backs put in some brave tackles to keep out Merthyr's very powerful centre combination – Ashford Thomas, Hywel Williams and Matt Harper being at the fore of the defence.

However, the day was one for the forwards and the Cowbridge pack refused to take a step backwards. After a powerful surge into the Merthyr half, pack leader George Thomas sealed an impressive personal and team effort when he drove over the line at close quarters for the final try – Matt Harper again converted for a 24-0 lead.

The Cowbridge boys were determined not to concede any points, which was exemplified by the tackling of Tom Evans, who took a late bang preventing Merthyr making a score.

Cowbridge team: Owain Thomas Jenkins, Cai Thomas Jenkins, Josh Brace, George Thomas, Jac Davies, Tom Whitehouse, Luke John, Tom Evans, Ben Jones, Frazz McGann, Tom Lucas, Rob David, Matt Harper, Hywel Williams, Ashford Thomas, Jonny Harvey, Tom Trotman, Liam Sloane, and Gabriel Newham.

ML

Llantwit A score first win of season

LLANTWIT A stole a march in the early minutes of this match with a dominating presence on the court.

They went three goals up and it was nearly four minutes before Pen y Bont Dragons had a chance to go for goal.

The second quarter started very scrappily with both sides guilty of fumbling and stumbling, tripping and slipping with the ball.

Llantwit were again quicker to get back into the running and they pushed on to a nine-goal lead at the end of half-time.

Competition was immediately resumed in the third quarter with every ball hotly contested. Llantwit did, however, lose momentum which resulted in The Dragons increasing their score to within three goals of Llantwit.

Both teams took to the court for the final quarter with the clear intention of winning.

Llantwit once more showed their composure scoring directly off their first two turnovers, to score the first three goals unanswered. The ball seemed to flow effortlessly down court for Llantwit, with both Anna Griffin and Lizzie Thomas finding their shooting range.

The game finished with Llantwit convincingly winning 39-30, recording their first victory this year.

BETHAN EVANS

LLANTWIT MAJOR JUNIOR FOOTBALL ROUND-UP

Under-12s triumph in semi-final

by GWYN JOHN

AFTER a long lay-off with the winter weather, the go ahead was given last Friday – matches are on!

However, the heavy frost on Friday night soon put paid to the majority of matches, with only a few beating the freeze.

Llantwit under-12s Cup semi-final against Cowbridge Town was on at Barry Sports Centre and the unbeaten Llantwit team lived up to their 'hot favourites' tag in beating their neighbours 4-0.

Kirstian Jones (2), Ashford Thomas and Andrew Allison scored in a comfortable win.

They now meet the winners of Cadoxton Imps and Porthkerry Panthers, whose semi-final tie was called off on Saturday.

Both Llantwit under-14 teams were fixtured together with the A side coming out on top with a 6-1 win. James Wear scored for the B side.

Llantwit under-15s visited Sully Sports A and lost 3-1. Llantwit had the chances to have won convincingly and hit the upright and crossbar four times.

However, all they could muster was a goal from Rob Sawyer.

In the mini football, Cole Baker scored for the under-10 Lions in their home match against Cowbridge.

The under-10 Dragons were in good form against Sully Serpents in a high-scoring match.

Moses Gee, Luke Beattie, Joe Baker, and an own goal, accounted for Llantwit's goals with Bevan Howell on top form for the Major.

Daniel Clark was on top form for the under-10 Tigers and scored against Barry Eagles. Parker Garman had a good match for Llantwit in a tough encounter.

Toff Patel and Matthew Reynolds found the net for the under-11 Lions against Cogan Celts in a very exciting game.

It's five in a row for The Snail!

ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

***THE SNAIL*, a seven-year-old bay gelding, trained by Evan Williams at Llancarfan, notched up his fifth consecutive win when landing the three-mile Cosmic Case Handicap Hurdle at Musselburgh last Wednesday.**

Ridden by stable jockey Irishman Paul Moloney, *The Snail*, who went off the 3-1 favourite, took up the running in the closing stages of the race to score by four lengths from *Sonara* to whom he was conceding 15lbs.

On Friday, Williams landed a 41-1 double when his four-year bay gelding *Extreme Impact*, the youngest horse in the race, landed a novice hurdle at Chepstow under Paul Moloney; then hours later in the evening at Wolverhampton, his six-year-old bay gelding *Sheshali*, carrying a hefty 10st, got home by a head from the favourite *Calculating* who was finishing runner-up for the third time in a row this season.

● A number of horses from the Vale will be travelling to Erw Lon, Pencader, on Saturday, weather permitting, for the Vale of Clettwr Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases. Racing gets under way at 11.30am with the members' and subscribers race.

● On April 4, 1953, the Pentyrch Hunt held their annual point-to-point steeplechases at St Fagans. The stewards were JC Clay, the famous cricketer, HCR Homfray, Cyril R Morgan, and J Roy Paton. My marked card informs me that Mr GH Jones's *No Probation* won the members' race, NN Johns-Powell's *Clanyon* won the adjacent race, and Mrs BEA Jones's *Spurn Head* the open steeplechase.

But Mr MJ Clay, who kindly gave me the racecard, together with a number of others, didn't mark up which one of the three runners – *Cotdello*, *Sally On*, *Sylvester II* – in the adjacent hunts' ladies' race, emerged successful.

There were 12 runners in the maiden race that day and I remember the winner as I had five shillings on it. It was a chestnut horse called *Wood Martin*, owned by Trevor Jenks, and it was ridden by the legendary Castleton farmer Bill Jones, who will always be associated with the prolific *Spurn Head*.

You can email your views/news to Brian Lee at leebrian@btinternet.com or phone him on 029 2073 6438.

Cardiff & the Vale Schools Boys Cross-country Championships, Trelai Park, Cardiff

Stanwell's Owen claims senior cross-country title

ALL the Vale secondary schools, plus Barry College, had boys taking part in last week's Cardiff & the Vale Schools' cross-country championships over a Trelai Park course in a surprisingly firm state – given the previous week's heavy snowfall.

Sadly, on a day when Cardiff schools provided three of the four individual winners and Llanishen claimed all three team titles, there was little joy for the Vale contingent, beyond providing more than 100 of the 276 finishers.

In the opening race, for the under-15 age group, year-8 Ben Owen was the only Vale athlete in the top 10, while Bro Morgannwg, in eighth place, led the Vale teams home.

Cowbridge pupils figured prominently in the year-7 races at the opening fixtures of the autumn term but, with Tom Lucas being delayed and missing the school transport and Ellis Rosser injured and unable to compete, only Kristian Jones figured in the top 10 at this event.

Slightly further down the field of 97, there were encouraging runs from Richard Dangerfield (Llantwit, 10th), Richards Stephens (St Cyres, 12th) and Dylan Connelly (Bro Morgannwg, 14th). By a narrow margin, Bro Morgannwg again headed the Vale schools, but could only place fifth.

On a grey, overcast day, the bitingly cold breeze, which had been so noticeable for the first two races, died so that the seniors in year-10 and above enjoyed the best conditions of the afternoon.

The first three places in this race, which includes two individual competitions – one for the under-17 boys in years 10 and 11, and the other for the seniors, were filled by pupils from Cardiff schools, but at least the Vale gained two awards.

Fourth-placed Owen Haswell (Stanwell), making a second encouraging run after a long absence through injury, claimed the senior title with a another Vale year-12, Darren Jones (Llantwit), in second. There was also a team success of sorts.

Bro Morgannwg had fielded more than 30 boys on the day, the fourth biggest contingent behind the 48 from Cardiff High, and gained some reward with a third-placed finish.

The individual and team awards will be made at the annual Cross-Country Presentation Evening, which is due to be held at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg on Tuesday, May 11.

Following this fixture, Cardiff & the Vale Schools' district will choose teams of 12, plus six non-travelling reserves, to compete at year-7, under-15 (years 8 and 9), under-17 (years 10 and 11) and under-20 (sixth form) at the Aviva 48th Welsh Schools' National cross-country championships at Brecon on Saturday, February 27.

The equivalent Cardiff & the Vale Schools' cross-country championships for girls are due to be held at Trelai on Tuesday, February 9.

Results of Vale boys: Senior (under-20 and under-17) Boys – 5.1 km – Individuals – 69 finishers (27): 4 Owen Haswell ((Stan, under-20) 18:37; 5 Rory Heslop (Bro M) 18:48; 6 Matthew Edwards (Barry) 18:52; 7 Darren Jones (Lwt, under-20) 18:58; 15 Dominic Farr (Bro M, under-20) 20:06; 16 Rhys George (Bro M) 20:09; 17 Daniel Lewis (St Cy) 20:16; 18 Alex Simon (Lwt) 20:17; 21 Oliver Crosby (Lwt) 20:36; 22 Dan Owen (Lwt) 20:40; 25 Joseff Whitmarsh-Knight (Bro M, under-20) 20:52; 26 Morgan Preece (Bro M) 21:00; 27 Dan Ruffle (Lwt) 21:12; 29 Einan Scott (Bro M) 21:21; 30 Huw Evans (Stan) 21:22; 31 Abdel Boulaiche (St Cy) 21:25; 34 William Elliot (Cow, under-20) 21:32; 44 Dafydd James-Isaacs (Lwt) 22:32; 51 Tiernan Scott (Bro M); 52 Michael Coles (Bro M); 54 Joshua Thomas (Cow); 55 Jon Esquirol (Cow); 56 Elliot Mears (Cow); 58 Kyle Garrison (Barry Coll, under-20); 60 James Warne (Lwt); 61 Dillon Morgan (Cow); 63 Ioan Williams (Bro M).

Teams: 3 Bro Morgannwg 61; 4 Llantwit Major 68; 8 Bro Morgannwg B 158; 11 Cowbridge 199

Years 8 and 9 (under-15) Boys – 4.1 km – Individuals – 110 finishers (41): 5 Ben Owen (Lwt) 16:27; 12 Sam Peterken (St Cy) 17:00; 14 Matthew Collins (Barry) 17:14; 16 Elliot Richards (Stan) 17:20; 17 Dafydd George (Bro M) 17:22; 23 Jake Bosza (W'bourne) 17:51; 26 Jacob Briscombe (Bro M) 18:00; 30 Tom Griffiths (Bro M) 18:09; 34 George Zygmonu (Stan) 18:30; 38 Lloyd Creed (Barry) 18:41; 39 Sam Laity (W'bourne) 18:41; 44 Curtis Williams (Barry) 18:54; 47 Ieuan Jones (Stan) 19:04; 48 Arran Bright (Lwt) 19:10; 49 Gareth Hurman (Barry) 19:11; 50 Callum Goddard (Barry) 19:15; 54 Curtis Hayes (Barry); 59 Tom Owen (Cow); 61 Junior Scott (St Cy); 65 Gareth Pilcher (Bro M); 66 Tomos Havard (St Cy); 68 Jacob Stokes-Mellor (Lwt); 76 Lewis Thomas (Bro M); 81 Morgan Williams (Bro M); 84 Keiran Thomas (Barry); 85 Joe Brown (W'bourne); 86 Arthur Blick (Cow); 93 James Loach (St Cy); 94 Taylor Harris (Bro M); 96 Rumtin Danelhuar (St Cy); 98 Robert Tucker (St Richard Gwyn); 100 Gareth Bolter (Lwt); 103 Jacob Frost (Stan); 104 Joseph Richards (Bro M); 105 Miles Jenkins (Cow); 106 Corrie Rowlands (Bro M); 107 Andy Young (Cow); 108 Jack McCaver (Cow); 109 Alex Vowles (St Cy); 110 Jordan Roe (St Richard Gwyn); dnf Tim Goodwin (Cow); dnf Alex Guard (Cow); dnf Joe Russell (Cow).

Teams: 8 Bro Morgannwg 138; 9 Barry Comprehensive 145; 11 Stanwell 200; 13 Llantwit Major 221; 14 St Cyres 232; 19 Bro Morgannwg B 355; 20 Cowbridge 357.

Year-7 (under-13) Boys – 3 km Individuals – 97 finishers (35): 6 Kristian Jones (Cow) 12:50; 10 Richard Dangerfield (Lwt) 12:57; 12 Richard Stephens (St Cy) 13:00; 14 Dylan Connelly (Bro M) 13:04; 15 Elliot Devred-Morris (Barry) 13:05; 18 David Constantino (Stan) 13:18; 20 Scott McMillan (Lwt) 13:19; 21 Reuben Bryl (Bro M) 13:22; 30 Toby Walker (Cow) 13:41; 33 Huw Bennett (Cow) 13:52; 34 Callum Drew (Lwt) 13:55; 35 Scott Dutfield (Stan) 13:56; 40 Andrew Greenslade (St Richard Gwyn); 48 Luke Swain (Bro M); 49 Rhys Evans (Bro M); 57 William Brown (Stan); 58 Lloyd James (St Richard Gwyn); 60 Ben Jones (Cow); 63 Will Eddy (Barry); 64 Calum Stisted (Stan); 67 Morgan Finlay (Bro M); 68 AJ Harry (Barry); 70 Steffan Godwin (Lwt); 75 Lewis Adams (St Cy); 76 Nicholas Rees (Cow); 77 Tom Edwards (Bro M); 78 Rhys Hunter (Bro M); 83 Jack Holloway (St Cy); 85 Rhydian Hopkins (Bro M); 86 Rhodri Miller (Bro M); 89 Mabon Evans (Bro M); 90 Ethan Darter (Lwt); 91 Billy Williams (St Richard Gwyn); 95 Iestyn Jones (Lwt); 96 Tyler Morse (St Cy).

Teams: 5 Bro Morgannwg 118; 6 Cowbridge 123; 7 Llantwit Major 124; 12 Stanwell 186; 15 Bro Morgannwg B 240; 16 St Cyres 254.

Year-8 Ben Owen (Llantwit, 307) the only Vale boy in the top 10 of the years 8 and 9.

An encouraging run from Richard Dangerfield (Llantwit, 301) 10th in the year-7 race.

Year-7 Kristian Jones (Cowbridge, 284) first Vale boy home in the year-7 race.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT, 1990
CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG
DEDDF CYNLLUNIO (ADEILADAU RHESTREDIG AC ARDALOEDD CADWRAETH) 1990

NOTICE is hereby given that application has been made to the Council for planning permission for the undermentioned developments:

HYSBYSIR trwy hyn i geisiadau gael eu gwneud i'r Cyngor am ganiatâd cynllunio ar gyfer y datblygiadau canlynol:

Development in Conservation Areas
Datblygiad mewn Ardaloedd Cadwraeth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00044/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Retention of a wooden cabin for a use falling within the definition of Use Class D1
Location:/Lleoliad: 34, Archer Road, Penarth
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Penarth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00054/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Construction of a new two storey stone clad pitched roof dwelling with basement access, including amendments to stone boundary walls and creation of new parking courtyard serving proposed and existing dwellings.
Location:/Lleoliad: Old Place, Castle Street, Llantwit Major
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Llantwit Major

Conservation Area Consent
Caniatâd Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00056/CAC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Demolition of stone boundary walls within site (as part of proposed construction of a new two storey stone clad pitched roof dwelling with basement access, including amendments to stone boundary walls and creation of new parking courtyard serving proposed and existing dwellings)
Location:/Lleoliad: Old Place, Castle Street, Llantwit Major
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Llantwit Major

Listed Building Consent
Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00036/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed addition of 2 No. roof lights
Location:/Lleoliad: Mansfield, 24, Archer Road, Penarth
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00037/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Strengthen existing timber beam supporting the bedroom floor over the dining room and replace the ceiling in the dining room following accidental removal
Location:/Lleoliad: Great House, Llysworney
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00038/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: To install new ventilation plant in school kitchen and extract to the roof for Health and Safety reasons
Location:/Lleoliad: Albert Road Primary School, Albert Road, Penarth
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Development that might affect the setting of a Listed Building
Datblygiad a allai effeithio ar amgylchedd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00054/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Construction of a new two storey stone clad pitched roof dwelling with basement access, including amendments to stone boundary walls and creation of new parking courtyard serving proposed and existing dwellings.
Location:/Lleoliad: Old Place, Castle Street, Llantwit Major
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Affecting Old Place and Old Place Cottages, Grade II

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00056/CAC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Demolition of stone boundary walls within site (as part of proposed construction of a new two storey stone clad pitched roof dwelling with basement access, including amendments to stone boundary walls and creation of new parking courtyard serving proposed and existing dwellings)
Location:/Lleoliad: Old Place, Castle Street, Llantwit Major
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Affecting Old Place and Old Place Cottages, Grade II

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at vog.planning-register.co.uk

Mae'r holl fanylion (gan gynnwys y cynlluniau) i'w gweld yn swyddfeydd Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant y cyngor (gwelwch y cyfeiriad ar waelod y dudalen) yn ystod oriau arferol swyddfa, am gyfnod o 21 o ddiwrnodau. Cewch eu gweld hefyd ar Gofrestr Ceisiadau Ar- vog.planning-register.co.uk

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING
(GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER 1995
GORCHYMYN CYNLLUNIO GWLAD A THREF
(TREFN DATBLYGIAD CYFFREDINOL) 1995

Application(s) that may be of General Public Interest
Ceisiadau a allai fod o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol i'r Cyhoedd

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00043/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Retrospective planning application for the retention of operations for the processing of timber waste for agricultural purposes including storage of plant and equipment when not in use and completion of partly constructed extension to farmyard.
Location:/Lleoliad: Brigham Farm, Llanharry, Pontyclun

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00058/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed Crematorium
Location:/Lleoliad: South Wales Golf Driving Range, Port Road East, Barry

Application(s) which might affect a Public Right of Way
Ceisiadau a allai effeithio ar Hawl Tramwy Cyhoeddus

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00058/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed Crematorium
Location:/Lleoliad: South Wales Golf Driving Range, Port Road East, Barry

Departure from the Provision of the Development Plan
Ceisiadau nad ydynt yn cydymffurfio â Darpariaeth y Cynllun Datblygu

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00058/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed Crematorium
Location:/Lleoliad: South Wales Golf Driving Range, Port Road East, Barry

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at vog.planning-register.co.uk
Mae'r holl fanylion (gan gynnwys y cynlluniau) i'w gweld yn swyddfeydd Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant y cyngor (gwelwch y cyfeiriad ar waelod y dudalen) yn ystod oriau arferol swyddfa, am gyfnod o 21 o ddiwrnodau. Cewch eu gweld hefyd ar Gofrestr Ceisiadau Ar-lein y cyngor drwy fynd i vog.planning-register.co.uk.

Dated: 4 February, 2010
Rob Thomas
Head of Planning and Transportation
The Vale of Glamorgan Council,
Dock Office,
Barry Docks,
Barry
CF63 4RT

Dyddiedig: 4 Chwefror, 2010
Rob Thomas
Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Swyddfa'r Doc,
Dociau'r Barri,
Y Barri
CF63 4RT

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Special sales only. Subject to availability at participating Mazda dealers for new vehicles contracted and registered between 1 January 2010 and 31 March 2010. *0% finance available on Mazda3 Tamura with minimum 50% deposit required©. A lower deposit will increase the amount of re-payments. Offer not available in conjunction with Government Scrappage Scheme. Finance subject to status. Terms and conditions apply. Applicants must be 18 or over. Guarantor/Underwriter may be required. Mazda Financial Services IFN 191. Model shown: Mazda3 Tamura, OTR price £14,995. On the road price includes 17.5% VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months road fund licence, 1st registration fee, 3 year or 60,000 mile warranty and 3 years European Roadside Assistance. Details correct at time of going to press. *Test drives subject to applicant status and availability.

Who wants to build what and where?

Miss Jill James – **West Farm, Southerndown** – change of use of existing barn property from tea shop restaurant to mixed use of tea shop restaurant, cinema plays, meeting facilities, exhibitions and holiday accommodation letting.

Mr Phillipe De Wilde – **Tumblers Chase, St Hilary, Cowbridge** – external alterations comprising demolition, construction of new store entrance portico and orangery on rear elevation.

Mr C Gunn – **1 Cedar Way, Penarth** – new attached house.

Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust – **Llandough Hospital, Penlan Road, Penarth** – temporary car park for the duration of the construction of the MHSOP Project. The car park provides parking for the building contractors' operatives and compensates for the loss of staff car parking spaces which have been overlaid by the temporary diversion of the hospital service road.

Staff car parking spaces will be reinstated upon completion of the development.

Redrow Homes – **land at St Johns Well, St Athan** – development at St Johns Well for up to 100 dwellings, public open space and associated access.

Mr Ian Hunt – **The Old Coal Yard, Le Pouliguen Way, Llantwit Major** – extension of the approved access road to houses 1 to 14 of application 2007/00107/FUL, also removal of parking spaces marked V, 6, 7 and 8 and related landscape items.

Mr Ian Hunt – **41 and 43 Boverton Road, Llantwit Major** – erection of eight three-bedroom semi-detached houses and parking, after demolition of existing properties on the site.

Mr Lesley John – **Cottages 1, 2 and 3 Highfield Close, Park Road, Barry** – extensions and internal refurbishment to three cottages (existing) at north boundary of Highfield Close, Park Road, Barry. Cottages 1, 2 and 3 two-storey pitched roof, extensions to be flat roofed.

Mrs C Fenton – **Kenson Cottage, Barren Hill, Penmark** – fell cherry tree.

Mr Martin Dodwell – **Flackwell Cottage, Tredodridge, Cowbridge** – change of use to residential curtilage and erection of boundary wall.

Mr and Mrs J Canning – **79 Castle Drive, Dinas Powys** – single storey side and rear extension.

Mrs Lynda Hale – **3 Winsford Road, Sully** – change of use of property annexe only, from residential use to business – provision of complementary therapies, primarily for adults with learning difficulties.

Mr CW Edwards – **land at Pwllywrach Farm, Colwinston** – to remove derelict earth banks that are within a larger field enclosure.

Mr Nick Wall – **plot adjacent 34 Smithies Avenue, Sully** – renew planning application 2004/00943/FUL for a two-storey dwelling house, parking and access.

Mr Andrew Baker – **6 Rogersmoor Close, Penarth** – replace existing velux windows with new dormer windows. Widen and increase height of the gable frontage to the house, and introduce new bedroom at first floor level and a home office at ground floor level.

Mr David Burgess – **Mansfield, 24 Archer Road, Penarth** – proposed addition of two roof lights.

Dr Emma Scott Coombes – **Great House, Llysworney** – strengthen existing timber beam supporting the bedroom floor over the dining room and replace the ceiling in the dining room following accidental removal.

Mr Malcolm Drysdale – **St Athan Recreation Ground, off Glyndwr Avenue, St Athan** – provision of floodlighting in association with an upgrade to an existing skatepark facility.

Mr and Mrs Clémo – **30 Tathan Crescent, St Athan** – proposed removal of existing porch, installation of new porch and conservatory, new window to lounge.

Mr Barrie James – **The Croft, St Andrews Road, Dinas Powys** – landscaping and retaining works.

Mr and Mrs Michael Haberfield – **plot adjacent to 75 Fontygary Road, Rhoose** – proposed new dwelling.

Openreach – **opposite 19 Plymouth Road, Barry** – erect a new above ground joining chamber. New green coloured cabinet.

Ms Claire Perrin Davies – **Marooned Hairdressers, 52A High Street, Cowbridge** – remove existing black awning above ground floor walkway and replace with a retractable black awning.

Ms G Sheppard – **11b Broadway, Cowbridge** – conservatory to rear of property.

Ms Lisa Edwards – **1 Grove Terrace, Penarth** – proposed entrance porch.

Mr John Pritchard – **26 Sully Terrace, Penarth** – change of use from ground floor shop and first floor dwelling to single domestic dwelling, including alterations and extensions.

Sainsburys Plc – **28 Windsor Road, Penarth** – internally illuminated box fascia and one internally illuminated projecting sign.

Windsor Arcade Management Ltd – **11 Windsor Road, Penarth** – provide a safe system to enclose the wheelie bins to prevent them straying onto the public highway and to avoid any fly tipping in the area.

Loft Co – **Washington Buildings, Stanwell Road, Penarth** – change of use of first floor units (A3) to live/work units.

Mr Darren Anstee – **118 Plymouth Road, Penarth** – replace windows to front and rear of property plus one rear door.

Mr Francis William Lister – **Bron Haulog, Blackton Farm, Port Road West, Penmark** – continued use of private dwelling.

Mr Rob Lucas – **11 Ham Lane South, Llantwit Major** – special needs adaptations including single storey extension to include shower/WC ensuite, wheelchair storage and associated works.

Mr Paul Barnett – **49 Lewis Road, Llandough** – demolition of existing single storey extension and conservatory and rebuild new kitchen extension.

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09 1.6i 16v VTR 5dr Estate	Beige	4,084 miles	£9,995
07 1.4i Forte 5dr Estate	Grey	12,500 miles	£6,495
07 1.6 HDi 16v Forte 5dr Dsl Estate	Red	44,037 miles	£6,995
CITROEN C1			
08 1.0i Vibe 5dr Hatch	Red	3,000 miles	£6,295
08 1.0i Rhythm 3dr Hatch	Red	16,501 miles	£6,995
06 1.0 Vibe 3dr Hatch	Yellow	25,000 miles	£4,995
CITROEN C2			
58 1.4 HDi VTR 3dr Diesel Hatch	Black	9,091 miles	£8,495
07 1.1i Airplay + 3dr Hatch Sp Eds	Yellow	12,133 miles	£6,495
08 1.4i VTR 3dr Hatch	Silver	15,846 miles	£7,495
06 1.6i 16v VTR 3dr SensoDrive Hatch	Blue	14,000 miles	£5,995
06 1.6i 16v VTR 3dr SensoDrive Hatch	Red	23,521 miles	£5,995
CITROEN C3			
08 1.4i Cachet 5dr Hatch Special Ed	Silver	11,905 miles	£7,995
07 1.4i SX 5dr Hatch	Silver	35,500 miles	£6,495
56 1.4i SX 5dr Hatch	Grey	19,342miles	£6,495
55 1.6i 16v Exclusive 5dr Sensodrive Hatch	Blue	24,769 miles	£5,995
CITROEN C4			
59 1.6i 16v THO VTS 3dr Coupe	Blue	2,967 miles	£13,995
56 1.6iHDi 16v SX 5dr Diesel Hatch	Silver	19,901 miles	£7,995
56 1.6 16v Cool 3dr Coupe Sp Eds	Silver	29,002 miles	£6,995
06 1.6iHDi 16v VTR Plus 3dr Dsl Coupe	Silver	10,573 miles	£8,495
07 1.4i 16v LX 5dr Hatch	Blue	18,000 miles	£6,495
07 1.6i 16v SX 5dr Auto Hatch	Mauve	11,434 miles	£6,995
CITROEN C4 GRAND PICASSO			
58 1.6 HDi 16v VTR+ 5dr D Est	Grey	19,441 miles	£14,495
08 1.6 HDi 16v VTR+ 5dr D Est	Blue	8,749 miles	£14,495
57 1.6 HDi 16v VTR+ 5dr D Est	Mauve	12,659 miles	£13,495
07 2.0 HDi 16v VTR + 5dr EGS D Est	Silver	21,659 miles	£13,495
CITROEN C4 PICASSO			
57 2.0 16v SX 5dr EGS (5 seat) Estate	Silver	7,723 miles	£10,995
CITROEN C5			
58 2.0i 16v VTR+ 4dr Saloon	Blue	21,324 miles	£11,995
58 2.0 HDi 16v VTR+ 4dr Auto Dsl Sal	Red	14,994 miles	£13,995
58 2.0 HDi 16v VTR+ 4dr Dsl Saloon	Blue	18,297 miles	£12,995
06 HDi 16v Exclusive 5dr Diesel Hatch	Silver	35,000 miles	£7,995
CITROEN RELAY			
58 2.2 HDi H1 Van 120ps 33 L1 Diesel	White	5,041 miles	£12,645
CITROEN XSARA PICASSO			
59 1.6i 16v Desire 5dr Estate	Silver	3,528 miles	£10,495
59 1.6i 16v Desire 5dr Estate	Red	1 mile	£10.995
08 1.6 HDi 92 VTX 5dr Diesel Estate	Black	25,676 miles	£9,995
06 2.0 16v VTX 5dr Auto Estate	Blue	30,215 miles	£8,595
PEUGEOT 107			
05 1.0 Urban 3dr Hatch	Blue	44,000 miles	£4,795

59 Berlingo Multispace 1.6 16v VTR 5dr Est
Beige, 10 miles **£9,995**

56 CITROEN C3 1.4i SX 5dr Hatch
Grey, 19,342 miles **£6,495**

07 C4 Grand Picasso 2.0HDi 16v VTR+ EGS
5dr Dsl Est, Silver, 21,659 miles **£13,495**

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07 **07 JAGUAR X K convertible.** Zircon blue metallic with ivory sports leather interior, upgraded 20 inch setanta wheels, full colour satellite navigation, electric heated memory seats, cruise control, climate control, rear parking sensors, bluetooth phone prep, only 12,621 miles, fsh, 1 owner **£42,995**

06 **56 BMW 2.0TD 320D SE 4-dr Saloon.** In Arctic grey with anthracite interior, automatic air con, upgraded alloy wheels, rear parking sensors, only 41,655 miles, fsh **£14,995**

06 **56 BMW 116i SE 5-dr** in sparkling graphite met with full Boston beige leather interior, comfort pack, cd, climate control, alloy wheels, reversing sensors, auxiliary I-pod connection, only 19,950 miles interior titanium trim, auto lights and auto wipers **£11,995**

05 **05 MERCEDES Benz 1.8 SLK 200 Compressor Auto 2-dr Convertible** in Tellur silver, black leather interior, climate control, multi function steering wheel, CD, alloys, only 61,000 miles, fsh **£16,995**

05 **05 MERCEDES Benz M-Class 2.7 TD ML270 CDI Automatic 5-Door Station Wagon.** In Brilliant silver with Orion grey leather interior, climate control, Bluetooth phone prep, privacy glass, heated seats, rear parking sensors, only 52,975 miles **£15,995**

05 **55 VOLVO S40 2.0 Diesel SE** in Amethyst with Ivory Leather interior, cd, alloys, cruise control, electric sunroof, electric seats, only 34,255 miles **£9,995**

04 **54 MERCEDES Benz CL500 5 litre 2-dr Auto coupe.** In tanzanite blue with java leather interior with BOSE sound system, AMG body styling, electric sunroof, only 48,245 miles **£19,995**

01 **51 JAGUAR S-Type 3.0 V6 4-Door Saloon Automatic.** In Pacific blue with cashmere beige full leather interior, climate control, CD, electric seats, rear parking sensors, only 55,810 miles **£5,995**

01 **X LEXUS RX 300 Station Wagon Auto.** In platinum silver with Lincoln interior, air con, alloy wheels, electric windows, alarm and immobiliser, only 85,000 miles **£5,996**

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07 **07 NISSAN Navara 2.5 DCi Outlaw Double Cab Pick-Up.** In stardust silver, with black outlaw cloth interior, air con, cruise control, CD, alloy wheels, lockable colour coded load cover, only 24,560 miles ..... **£13,995 + VAT**

07 **07 VW Beetle 1.6 Luna 2-dr Cabriolet.** In harvest moon beige with dark interior, heated seats, CD, front fogs, colour coded bumpers, only 11,335 miles **£12,995**

07 **07 PEUGEOT 207 1.6 HDi Sport 3-dr Hatchback.** In Onyx black with Madrid black/grey interior, air con, CD, alloy wheels, front fogs, colour coded bumpers, only 29,405 miles **£8,495**

06 **56 HONDA Civic 1.8i V-tec Type-S 3-Dr Hatchback.** In alabaster silver with alcantara/suede interior, climate control, CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 24,405 miles **£10,495**

06 **06 VOLKSWAGEN Golf GT TDi 2.0 (140) 5-dr** in steel grey with dark interior, cd, dual climate control, cruise control, alloy wheels, electric mirrors, only 58,300 miles **£9,995**

06 **06 AUDI A3 1.9TDi Special Edition 3-Dr Hatchback.** In brilliant black with module black cloth interior, air con, CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, full Audi service history, one owner, only 55,390 miles **£9,495**

06 **06 FORD Focus 1.8TDCi Sport 5-dr Hatchback.** In panther black with dark flint interior, CD, air con, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 55,315 miles **£7,495**

06 **55 AUDI A3 2.0T FSi 5-dr Sport Back** in Avus silver with matrix cloth interior. BOSE speaker system, 17 inch alloy wheels, front fogs, climate conrol, cd, only 39,280 miles **£11,995**

05 **05 MINI 1.6 Cooper S (Chilli Pack).** Black, black leather interior, a/c, alloys, cd, rear parking sensors, only 49,390 miles **£11,995**

05 **55 BMW X3 2.0D Sport 5-dr Station Wagon.** In blue water silver with black leather interior, sat nav, multi CD, heated seats, front and rear parking sensors, only 61,930 miles **£14,995**

05 **54 MG ZT-T 1.8T 160 5-dr Estate.** In Royal blue, Monaco ash half leather interior, alloy wheels, climate control, multi-function steering wheel, only 32,320 miles **£5,995**

04 **54 TOYOTA Celica 1.8 VVTi Premium Coupe.** In crystal silver with Montreal black leather interior, climate control, alloy wheels, immobiliser, deadlocks, alarm, CD, only 27,953 miles **£7,995**

04 **54 PEUGEOT 206 1.6 HDi 110bhp GTi 3-dr Hatchback.** In Sahara yellow with half anthracite leather/suede interior, digital air con, multi CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 22,755 miles **£6,995**

04 **04 RENAULT Clio 182 Sport 3-dr hatchback.** In met blue with half leather/suede interior, sports seats, traction control, cruise control, climate control, alloys, 6 cd auto changer, only 51,314 miles **£6,995**

03 **53 MGTF 1.8 135bhp 2-door Convertible.** In starlight silver with black interior, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, CD, electric windows, only 30,845 miles **£4,495**

02 **52 VOLKSWAGEN Golf TDi (130) 5-Dr Hatchback.** In Reflex silver with anthracite interior, alloy wheels, climate control, CD changer, only 68,990 miles **£5,995**

01 **Y AUDI TT Roadster 1.8T Quattro (225)** in met silver with full granite leather, 18" alloy wheels, heated seats, trip computer, cruise control + climate control, cd multi-changer with BOSE stereo upgrade, only 63,010 miles **£8,495**

00 **X TVR Tuscan 4 litre V8 360bhp.** In crystal topaz pearl blue with portland grey leather interior, cd, 18" spyder alloy wheels, e/windows, cat 1 alarm, e/mirrors, a/c, substantial workshop portfolio, supreme example, only 36,000 miles **£12,995**

99 **T BMW Z3 1.9 2-dr Convertible.** In Green with green leather interior, colour coded bumpers, CD, alloy wheels, electric hood, only 51,300 miles **£5,995**

FAMILY

06 **56 TOYOTA Corolla T2 Colour Collection, 1.4 5-dr hatchback.** In eclipse black with silver fleck interior, a/c, alloys, colour coded side skirts, audio controls on steering wheel, one owner, only 32,415 miles **£7,995**

06 **56 CHEVROLET Lacetti 1.6 SX 5-Dr Estate.** In imperial blue with grey interior, air con, CD, colour coded bumpers, immobiliser, service history, only 31,860 miles **£4,995**

06 **06 FORD Focus C-Max 2.0 TDCi Zetec 5-dr MPV** in tonic blue with dark flint interior, cd, air con, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 31,000 miles **£8,995**

06 **06 PEUGEOT 307 1.6 16V SE 5-dr Hatchback.** In hurricane grey with Ikho black interior, front fog lights, multi CD, air con, rear parking sensors, only 40,018 miles **£6,995**

05 **05 CITROEN Xsara Picasso 1.6 16v Exclusive 5-Dr MPV.** In Oriental blue with dorcie blue interior, cruise control, automatic air con, Isofix anchorage point, traction control system, only 32,355 miles **£6,495**

04 **54 PEUGEOT 206 SW 2.0 HDi 90 XSi 5-dr Estate.** China blue, black/grey merlin interior, a/c, body coloured bumpers, cd, alloys, only 45,796 miles **£5,995**

04 **54 RENAULT Scenic 1.4 16v Authentique** in met grey with anthracite interior, a/c, auto wipers, auto lights, only 42,800 miles **£4,695**

04 **04 TOYOTA Avensis 2.0 VVTi T-Spirit Auto 4-dr Saloon.** Silver fern, st moritz charcoal leather, map gps nav system, climate, cruise, electric seat adjustment, only 55,065 miles **£6,995**

04 **04 RENAULT Megane 1.9 DCi 120 Dynamique 5-dr Hatchback.** In metallic silver, with anthracite interior, alloy wheels, CD, colour coded bumpers, air con, only 42,955 miles **£5,995**

04 **04 FORD Focus 1.6 16v Ghia Hatchback.** In moon dust silver with midnight black interior, air con, quick clear windscreen, front fog lights, colour coded bumpers, only 48,695 miles **£4,495**

02 **52 NISSAN Almera 1.8 SVE 5-dr Hatchback.** Grey tungsten cloth, cd, a/c, reversing sensors, colour coded bumpers, only 44,300 miles **£3,995**

02 **52 AUDI A4 1.9 TDi SE.** In denim blue with phoenix blue upholstery, climate control, cd, alloys, only 26,075 miles **£7,995**

01 **Y BMW 3 Series 1.9i 316 4-dr Saloon.** In bright red with dark interior, electric windows, colour coded bumpers, driver and passenger airbags, only 49,125 miles **£4,295**

SMALL

08 **58 TOYOTA Yaris 1.0 VVT-I T2 5-dr Hatchback.** In crystal silver, electric windows and mirrors, CD, multi-function steering wheel, only 3,725 miles **£7,995**

08 **08 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 Breeze** in black sapphire, alloy wheels, air con, cd, colour coded bumpers, multi-functional steering wheel, only 5,242 miles **£7,495**

07 **07 RENAULT Clio 1.5 DCi 68 Extreme hatchback.** In black with anthracite interior, alloy wheels, cd, electric windows, remote central locking, alarm, immobiliser, only £35 per year road tax, 27,650 miles **£7,295**

07 **07 RENAULT Clio 1.4 16v 98 Expression 3-dr** in platinum silver met with voile interior, cd, air con, alloy wheels, remote central locking, elec windows, alarm and immobiliser, only 4,747 miles **£6,995**

06 **56 FORD Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Climate 5-dr Hatchback.** In Tonic blue with Kompass blue interior, air con, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, only 39,475 miles **£6,495**

06 **06 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Extreme 3-Dr Hatchback.** In platinum silver with grey interior, alloy wheels, steering wheel mounted audio controls, colour coded bumpers, CD, only 19,860 miles **£5,995**

06 **06 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Campus Sport** in pearl black pearlescent with extreme interior, colour coded bumpers, remote central locking, alloy wheels, alarm and immobiliser, electric windows, only 22,488 miles **£5,295**

06 **55 TOYOTA Aygo 1.0 VVT-i Sport** in carbon quartz met with dark flint interior, alloy wheels, cd, remote central locking, alarm and immobiliser, elecctric windows, only 51,300 miles **£4,995**

05 **55 FORD KA Luxury 1.3 3-dr Hatchback.** In Tonic blue with ebony leather interior, air con, quick clear screen, CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 16,980 miles **£5,495**

04 **54 FORD Fiesta Flame 1.4 Limited Edition 5-Dr Hatchback.** In Flare orange with Kompass silver interior, CD, alloy wheels, roof spoiler, air con, only 36,585 miles **£4,695**

04 **54 FORD Ka 1.3 3-door Hatchback.** In deep navy blue with indigo cascade cloth interior, CD, ABS, immobiliser, power steering, only 31,595 miles **£2,995**

04 **04 PEUGEOT 206 2.0 Coupe Cabriolet 2-dr** in platinum silver with full black astrakan leather interior, air con, cdm alloy wheels, alarm, only 43,895 miles **£6,495**

04 **04 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Dynamique 5-dr Hatchback.** In Platinum silver with dark grey interior, sunroof, alloy wheels, CD, front fogs, only 37,700 miles **£4,795**

04 **04 FORD Ka 1.3 Style 3-dr Hatchback.** In moondust silver with digit anthracite interior, CD, power steering, colour coded bumpers, only 48,656 miles **£3,495**

02 **02 PEUGEOT 206 1.6 Coupe Cabriolet S 2-dr** in platinum silver with full black astrakan leather interior, air con, cd, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, auto lights, only 64,220 miles **£5,495**

02 **52 RENAULT Megane 1.6 16v Dynamique 3-dr Hatchback** in met silver with dark interior, air con, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, auto lights, only 48,060 miles **£3,995**

02 **02 DAEWOO Matiz 0.8 SE 5-dr.** In super red with grey interior, CD, immobiliser, body coloured bumpers, driver and passenger airbags, only 30,288 miles **£2,495**

01 **51 PEUGEOT 206 2.0 Coupe Cabriolet SE 2-dr** in platinum silver with full black astrakan leather interior, digital climate control, cd, 16 inch alloy wheels, front fogs, only 46.010 miles **£3,995**

00 **X RENAULT Megane 1.4 16v Sport Alize 2-Door Coupe.** In Monaco blue with blue interior, air con, CD, alloy wheels, immobiliser, only 62,000 miles **£2,495**

L **93 AUSTIN Mini 1.3 Sprite 2-dr Saloon Automatic.** In night fire red with grey interior, all original specification, only 47,215 miles **£2,995**

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06 **56 BMW 116i SE 5-dr** in sparkling graphite met with full Boston beige leather interior, comfort pack, cd, climate control, alloy wheels, reversing sensors, auxiliary I-pod connection, only 19,950 miles interior titanium trim, auto lights and auto wipers **£11,995**

06 **56 BMW 2.0TD 320D SE 4-dr Saloon.** In Arctic grey with anthracite interior, automatic air con, upgraded alloy wheels, rear parking sensors, only 41,655 miles, fsh **£14,995**

02 **52 VOLKSWAGEN Golf TDi (130) 5-Dr Hatchback.** In Reflex silver with anthracite interior, alloy wheels, climate control, CD changer, only 68,990 miles **£5,995**

06 **06 VOLKSWAGEN Golf GT TDi 2.0 (140) 5-dr** in steel grey with dark interior, cd, dual climate control, cruise control, alloy wheels, electric mirrors, only 58,300 miles **£9,995**

07 **07 RENAULT Clio 1.5 DCi 68 Extreme hatchback.** In black with anthracite interior, alloy wheels, cd, electric windows, remote central locking, alarm, immobiliser, only £35 per year road tax, 27,650 miles **£7,295**

07 **07 RENAULT Clio 1.4 16v 98 Expression 3-dr** in platinum silver met with voile interior, cd, air con, alloy wheels, remote central locking, elec windows, alarm and immobiliser, only 4,747 miles **£6,995**

05 **55 FORD KA Luxury 1.3 3-dr Hatchback.** In Tonic blue with ebony leather interior, air con, quick clear screen, CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 16,980 miles **£5,495**

04 **54 FORD Ka 1.3 3-door Hatchback.** In deep navy blue with indigo cascade cloth interior, CD, ABS, immobiliser, power steering, only 31,595 miles **£2,995**

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06 06 PEUGEOT 107 1.0 Urban 3-dr, 22k, £35 road tax

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04 04 TOYOTA Celica VVTi 1.8 39k, leather

£5,775
07 07 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Campus, grey met, 39k miles

£4,975
00 W JAGUAR Sovereign 4.0 Auto, cream leather

£4,975
03 53 HYUNDAI Coupe 2.0SE, 51k, leather

Finance example

Amount of credit: £4975.00
35 Monthly payments of £163.06
Final payment of £462.06
Total charge for credit £1194.16
Total amount payable £6169.16
Weekly equivalent £39.55

APR 14.82%
*Photos are indicative only

Small Cars

02 02 SUZUKI Wagon R 1.3 GL Special 5dr. Silver met, 50k miles, rcl, a/c, e/w, alloys ... £3,475
04 53 FIAT Punto 1.3 Active 5-dr. Grey, 71k miles, cl., ew, pas, city beater, cd £3,475
03 03 FIAT Punto 1.2 Active 5dr. Blue met, 47k miles, rcl, pas, e/w, cd £3,675
03 03 TOYOTA Yaris 1.3 AUTO. Blue met, 25k, rcl, pas,ew, cd £3,975
03 03 SKODA Fabia 1.9 TDi Turbo Diesel 5dr. Green met, 61k miles, rcl, cd, alloys £4,475
04 54 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4 3dr SXI. Blue metallic, 53k miles, rcl, alloys, ew, pas . £4,475
05 54 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Expression 3-dr. Silver, met, 58k miles, rcl, pas, ew, cd .. £4,475
07 07 HYUNDAI Amica 1.1 GSI 5dr. Blue metallic,20k miles, ew, cd, pas £4,475
04 04 RENAULT Clio 1.4 Expression 5dr. Blue met, 32k miles, rcl, pas, e/w, cd .. £4,675
05 55 TOYOTA Yaris 1.3 VVT-I Colour Collection 3-dr. Met grey, 38k miles, alloys, rcl, pas, ew £4,975
06 06 VAUXHALL Agila 1.2 16v Enjoy 5dr. Met purple, 12k miles rcl,pas,ew,cd ... £5,975
07 07 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Campus 5-dr, grey met, 39k miles, rcl, pas. ew, cd £5,775
07 07 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style 3-dr, silver met, 39k miles, ew, pas, cd £6,475
07 07 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 Life (a/c) 3-dr, grey met, 26k miles, rcl, pas, cd, ew .. £6,475
07 07 CITROEN C3 1.4 Desire 5-dr. Met black, cd, a/c, pas, 12k miles £6,975
08 08 SUZUKI Swift 1.3 gl 5dr. Met orange with silver stripes, 19k miles, rcl, alloys, cd ... £7,975

Family Cars

04 04 HONDA Jazz 1.4 DSI SE AUTO 5dr. Silver metallic, rcl,cd,ew,alloys £4,975
05 05 NISSAN Almera Tino 1.8 SE mpv, 31k miles £4,975
05 05 FORD Mondeo 2.0 LX Estate, red met, 33k miles, rcl, ew, pas, rof rails £5,475
06 06 FORD Fusion 1.6 Zetec AUTO 5dr. Silver met, 44k miles, rcl, alloys, a/c, cd £6,975
07 07 FIAT Grande Punto 1.2 Dynamic 5dr. Met blue, e windows, RCL, 5k miles .. £6,975
06 06 FORD Focus 1.8 TDCi Ghia 5dr DIESEL. Tonic met, alloys, cd, fsh £7,975

Sports & Executives

01 51 ROVER 75 2.5 V6 AUTO Connoisseur. Blue met, rcl, a/c, cd, alloys, e/w, nav, full leather £3,475
00 W JAGUAR Sovereign 4.0 Auto 5dr. Met green, 89k, cream leather, a/c, must be seen . £4975
04 54 RENAULT Megane 1.9 DCi 3dr (120bhp) Dynamique TURBO DIESEL. 60k miles, panoramic roof, rcl, a/c, e/w £5,475
03 52 PEUGEOT 206cc Convertible. Silver met, 38k miles, rcl, e/w, cd, 2 tone leather £5,975
05 54 VAUXHALL Vectra 1.9 CDTi SRI AUTO 5dr. Met blue, alloys, a/c, fsh £5,975
08 08 FIAT Grande Punto 1.4 Dynamic Sport. Grey, 12k miles, rcl, e/w, alloys, a/c £7,975
04 04 TOYOTA Celica VVTi. Met silver, 39k, S/H, sports pack, leather, sunroof, a/c £7,475
04 04 BMW 330D Sport 5dr. Met silver, M TEC styling, leather, fsh £8,975

Estates, MPVs and 4x4s

02 02 RENAULT Scenic 1.6 Expression MPV AUTO, silver met, 55k miles, rcl, ew, ac, twin sunroofs £2,975
04 04 DAEWOO Tacuma 1.6 Extra MPV, silver met, 22k miles, rcl, ew, pas, roof rails £3,475
05 05 NISSAN Almera Tino 1.8 SE MPV. Silver met, 32k miles, rcl, cd, a/c, ew, reverse, climate £4,975
05 54 CITROEN Picasso 1.6 HDi Exclusive MPV, met silver £7,475
07 07 LANDROVER Freelander 2.2 TD4 HSE. Black metallic, 23k miles, front and rear sensors,touch screen nav £21,975

Summer Cars - Winter Prices

96 N FORD Friedia AUTO 2.5 TURBO DIESEL. 96k miles, a/c, electric blinds, elevating roof £4,975
03 53 MGTF 115 Sunstorm CONVERTIBLE. Black met, 49k miles, alloys, rcl, hard top £4,975
04 53 MGTF 1.8 135 CONVERTIBLE. Silver met, 31k miles, alloys, rcl, e/w, pas £4,975
04 04 FORD Street Ka Luxury 1.6 CONVERTIBLE luxury. Black, 49k miles, leather, rcl, a/c, cd, e/w £5,975
06 06 RENAULT Megane 1.6 Dynamique CONVERTIBLE. Black met, 21k miles, rcl, a/c, cd, e/w £8,975
04 04 SAAB 93 2.0T Vector CONVERTIBLE. Grey met, 50k miles, alloys, cd, a/c, rcl, full leather £9,475
04 04 MERCEDES SL 500 AUTO CONVERTIBLE. Silver met, 82k miles, nav, keyless go, leather, park sensors £19,975

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06 56 VAUXHALL Agila 1.2 Design 5dr. Silver met, **only 1,900 miles!** New £8,975 **Ours £5,975** **Saving £3,000**
06 56 FORD Fiesta 1.6 5dr Style Climate AUTO. **Only 2,300 miles!** New £11,275 **Ours £6,775** **Saving £4,500**
56 06 VAUXHALL Zafira 1.6 5dr Life (A/C) Blue met, **only 4,900 miles!** New £14,975 **Ours £6,975** **Saving £8,000**
06 56 RENAULT Megane 1.6 Dynamique 5dr. Met gold, **only 3200 miles!** New £14,336 **Ours £6,475** **Saving £7,861**
06 56 CITROEN C3 1.6 SX 5dr AUTO. Met blue, **only 5200 miles!** New £12,182 **Ours £6,475** **Saving £5,707**
06 56 VAUXHALL Astra 1.8 Life A/C AUTO 5dr. Panacotta, **only 4,900 miles** New £14,975 **Ours £6,975** **Saving £8,000**
06 56 FORD Fusion 1.6 Zetec Climate 5dr. Red met, **only 2.000 miles** New £12,475 **Ours £6,975** **Saving £5,500**
06 56 FORD Focus C-Max Zetec 2.0 AUTO 5dr. Met mintgreen, **only 4300 miles!** New £17,172 **Ours £6,975** **Saving £10,197**
06 56 NISSAN Micra 1.2 Sport 5dr. Grey met, **only 2,500 miles** New £11,475 **Ours £6,975** **Saving £4,500**
06 56 RENAULT Clio 1.6 Expression AUTO 5dr. Met blue, **only 1760 miles!** New £12,475 **Ours £6,975** **Saving £5,500**
06 56 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 5dr. Met black, **only 2500 miles!** New £10,975 **Ours £6,975** **Saving £4,000**
06 56 VAUXHALL Zafira 1.65 dr Life (A/C) Blue met, **only 1,500 miles** New £14,975 **Ours £7,475** **Saving £7,500**
06 06 RENAULT Grand Scenic 1.6 Dynamique. Red met, **only 4,500 miles!** New £16,795 **Ours £7,475** **Saving £9,000**
58 09 FORD Fusion 1.4 5dr Style AUTO. Red met, **only 1,000 miles!** New £11,275 **Ours £7,475** **Saving £3,500**
06 56 RENAULT Scenic 1.6 Dynamique AUTO. Gold met, **only 2,700 miles** New £16,975 **Ours £7,475** **Saving £9,500**
06 56 FORD Fiesta 1.6 Style Climate AUTO. Blue met, **only 3,700 miles** New £11,475 **Ours £7,475** **Saving £4,000**
06 56 FORD C-Max 2.0 Zetec AUTO MPV. Blue met, **only 4,500 miles** New £17,475 **Ours £7,475** **Saving £10,000**
06 56 FORD Focus 1.6 Sport 5dr. Blue met, **only 5,600 miles** New £13,975 **Ours £7,475** **Saving £6,500**
08 58 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Expression 5dr. Blue met, **only 3,000 miles!** New £10,175 **Ours £7,975** **Saving £2,200**
09 58 VAUXHALL Meriva 1.4 Life (A/C). Silver met, **only 741 miles** New £12,975 **Ours £8,475** **Saving £4,500**
09 58 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.2 5dr Hatch. Black met, **only 2,600 miles** New £10,475 **Ours £8,475** **Saving £2,000**
08 08 HONDA Jazz 1.4 5dr SE. Blue met, **only 4,800 miles!** New £11,475 **Ours £8,975** **Saving £2,500**
09 09 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 5dr Life. Silver met, **only 1,700 miles!** New £14,975 **Ours £9,475** **Saving £5,500**
09 09 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4 5dr club AUTO. Silver met, **only 400 miles!** New £11,975 **Ours £9,475** **Saving £2,500**
09 09 CITROEN Berlingo 1.6 HDi 5dr VTR. Blue met, **only 2,200 miles!** New £12,475 **Ours £9,975** **Saving £2,500**
09 09 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style+ 5dr. Black met, **only 650 miles** New £12,97 **Ours £10,475** **Saving £2,500**

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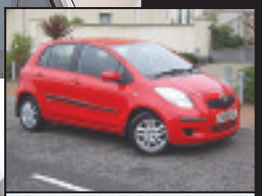
05 Audi A6 2.0 TDI SE 140 [Multi Media Interface] in silver, 1 owner 2.0 Dsl 140PS. MMI, FASH, e/w, e/seats, alloys . .£8,995

56 Peugeot 407 Coupe SE+ Executive 2.2 in black met, 27K FPSH full nappa leather, alloys, bi xenon, climate, h/seats .£8,995



08 Toyota Yaris 1.0 TR 5dr in red met, ONLY 12k, NEW SHAPE. FTSH. In new cond, a/c, alloys £8,495

08 Ford Fiesta 1.25 Zetec Climate 5dr in black met, anthracite pack. ONLY 23K FSH. Alloys, a/c £7,445

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05 Renault Clio 2.0 Renaultsport 182 in silver. ONLY 48,000 miles FSH. Loaded 182 BHP £6,495

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54 Volkswagen Golf 2.0 S SDI 5dr (A/C) Diesel. Please feel free to contact our sales team on 01446 738088 . . . . . £5,995

57 Nissan Micra 1.2 Spirita 5dr . . .£5,995

54 Audi A2 1.6 FSI SE R4 5dr Ltd Edition in blue met, Ltd Edition witneagro blue trim. Alloys ONLY 53k, FASH £5,995

56 Ford Fiesta 1.25-16v Freedom A/C 3dr In silver, ONLY 47,000 miles FSH, a/c, e/w, PAS, e/m. Only Group 3 ins £5,495

05 Renault Modus 1.5 DCI 80 Dynamique in red metallic, Diesel covered, 47,000 miles. Low tax+ins. Loaded, alloys, a/c . .£5,195

54 Mitsubishi Colt Elegance Auto in silver met, ONLY 34K, FSH. Automatic with leather, a/c, e/w, alloys £4,995

05 Peugeot 206 SW 1.4 HDI S 5dr Est, Sirius Silver met, diesel compact estate. Only £35 year road tax 60+ mpg, a/c, pas . .£4,995

05 Citroen Xsara Picasso Desire 2 1.6 5dr (a/c) in silver met, f/lift ONLY 38K FSH. Excellent cond, a/c, pas, e/w £4,995

54 Vauxhall Astra SRI 1.8-16V 5dr (a/c) in black met, ONLY 49,000 miles FSH. Immaculate with a/c £4,995

05 Volkswagen Polo 1.4 TDI Twist 2 in black met. DIESEL 2005 ONE OWNER, FSH. A/C, Alloys, e/w £4,995

53 Honda Jazz 1.4 SE Sport 5dr in green met, ONLY 41,000 miles FSH. Immaculate 5dr with air con, pas, e/w £4,795

54 Ford Focus 1.8 Edge 3dr (a/c) Ltd Edition in imola blue met, ONLY 40k with FSH, alloys, a/c, e/w £4,495

54 Ford Focus 1.8 Edge 3dr (a/c) Ltd Edition in imola blue met, ONLY 40k with FSH, alloys, a/c, e/w £4,495

54 Citroen C2 1.6 VTR Auto Senso In silver rose met. 31,000 miles. Drive fully auto or change by paddle/stick, alloys, e/w £3,995

53 Peugeot 307 2.0S 16v (a/c) 5dr in orion black met, ONLY 39,000 miles, fsh, e/w, a/c, cd, pas, alloys £3,495

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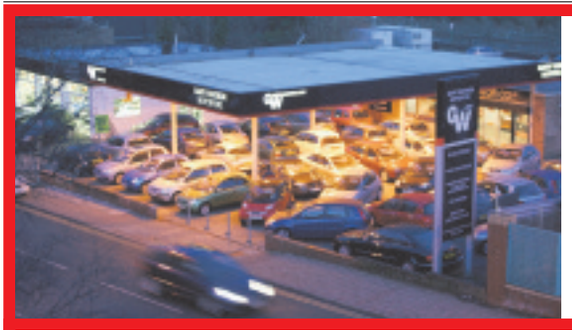

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54 RANGE ROVER Vogue 4.4 V8. Oslo blue, cream leather, 56,000 mls, sat nav, tv, xenons etc . . . .**REDUCED BY £1000 TO £17,995**

03 PORSCHE Boxster 2.7 (Facelift). In met red with grey leather trim, 30,000 miles, superb example at **£14,995**

06 MINI Cooper. In met blue + white, 37,000 miles, 1 owner with chilli pack and climate .**REDUCED BY £600 TO £8,695**

06 FORD Mondeo 2.0 TDCI Ghia Estate. Black, high specification diesel estate . . . . . .**REDUCED BY £1000 TO £5,995**

05 VW Golf Plus 1.9 TDi Sport In silver, 80,000 miles, 1 owner, great looking diesel . . . . . .**REDUCED BY £500 TO £6,995**

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57	**BMW 320 Diesel M Sport Auto** In black with cream leather trim, 30,000 miles, 1 lady owner	**£19,995**
56	**BMW 335 Diesel SE Coupe Automatic.** In dolphin grey with black leather trim, 26,000 miles	**£19,995**
54	**RANGE ROVER Vogue 4.4 V8.** Oslo blue, cream leather, 56,000 mls, sat nav, tv, xenons etc	**REDUCED BY £1000 TO £17,995**
04	**LEXUS SC430.** In silver birch metallic with cream leather interior, low mileage, local luxury convertible at	**£17,995**
03	**PORSCHE Boxster 2.7 (Facelift).** In met red with grey leather trim, 30,000 miles, superb example at	**£14,995**
53	**JAGUAR XJ8 3.6 Automatic.** In silver with cream leather trim, 53,000 miles, luxury motoring at	**£11,995**
54	**MERCEDES C200 CDi Avant Garde SE Auto.** In met silver, 23,000 miles, superb example	**REDUCED BY £500 TO £11,495**
04	**BMW Z4 2.5i SE.** In met. blue, black leather trim, 44,000 miles	**REDUCED BY £1000 TO £10,995**
05	**MERCEDES C180 Kompressor Auto.** In met blue, 55,000 miles, superb example at	**£9,995**
03	**MERCEDES E270 Diesel Avantgarde Auto.** Steel blue, 59,000 miles, with sat nav	**£9,995**
06	**MINI Cooper.** In met blue + white, 37,000 miles, 1 owner with chilli pack and climate	**REDUCED BY £600 TO £8,695**
56	**RENAULT Megane 1.6 Dynamique Convertible.** In met satin gold, low mileage example	**REDUCED BY £1000 TO £7,995**
V	**MERCEDES SLK 230 Auto.** In silver, full leather trim, 62,000 miles, stylish convertible at	**£7,995**
05	**RENAULT Megane 1.6 Dynamique CC.** In silver, 43,000 miles, 4 seater convertible at	**£6,995**
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03	**TOYOTA Celica 1.8 VVTi T Sport.** In smoke silver, 74,000 miles, 1 owner, main dealer fsh	**REDUCED BY £1000 TO £5,995**
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Total Deposit	£450.00
Amount of Credit	£9,745.00
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GMFV (Optional Final Payment)	£5,515.00
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Excess Mileage Charge	6p per mile

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Customer Deposit	£nil
Total Deposit	£1,500.00
Amount of Credit	£10,795.00
Total Charge for Credit (inc. £10 Purchase fee*)	£804.44
Total Amount Payable by the Customer	£11,599.44
GMFV (Optional Final Payment)	£5,580.00
Mileage per Annum	12000
Excess Mileage Charge	6p per mile

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Total Deposit	£450.00
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GEM sport

Wales set to roar in battle of the Lions – and spoil centenary celebrations

BACK PAGE COMMENT
by Don John

AS if the final countdown to the 119th meeting between world rugby's two arch rivals is not drama enough for the most fervent aficionados, the Lee Byrne saga has been in danger of igniting a fuse that could make Saturday's centenary-year clash at Twickenham an even more explosive occasion than usual.

For there is no doubt that the farcical events of the Heineken Cup match between the Ospreys and Leicester Tigers that saw Wales and British Lions full back Byrne being singled out for blame in the '16th man' uproar and banned from facing England after the defeated Tigers' vehement protests, have left a bitter aftertaste on both sides of the border.

The fact that the Welsh camp's preparations for the Six Nations opener were seriously disrupted, forcing the head coach to delay his team announcement while Byrne mounted a successful appeal against his sentence in Glasgow on Tuesday, would not have gone down well, with many rightly questioning why an unintentional touchline mix-up in a club competition should result in a key Welsh player being penalised at international level. Thankfully, commonsense prevailed in the end.

With wily Leicester demanding a complete re-match because of the bare 50 seconds when Ospreys had 16 men on the field, Welsh indignation would not have been soothed by veiled suggestions of deliberate 'cheating' by the region fed through the London media – even equating it to the Harlequins- 'Bloodgate' scandal!

It has prompted wry rejoinders by those with long memories that the Leicester club itself has hardly been whiter-than-white 'Back' in the past!

Ironically, the prevailing attitude in this cynically-professional age where sport is now big business dictated by TV schedules, and money is the main motivating force, was unwittingly spelt out by former England star turned rugby pundit, Stuart Barnes, when he wrote:

"*Cheating is smart play…You have to coach teams how to be disciplined and by discipline, I mean committing infringements when they have to – not for the sake of them...*

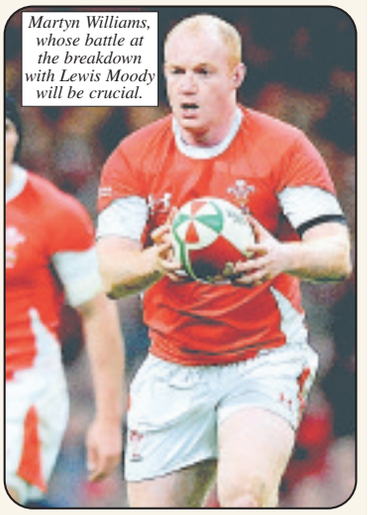
"During a game there are times when you think the opposition is going to score and you have to break the rules..."

All this is a far cry from the situation the red-faced Ospreys management found themselves in, but it remains to be seen if the fallout from the Heineken controversy still clouds the air when the two teams run out at 'Twickers' on Saturday.

If so, it would be a pity, for this 119th match promises to be a particularly enthralling encounter between two camps that have much to prove, following disappointing autumn results, and the relative lack of success by their respective clubs and regions in Europe.

Freed of the distractions afflicting Warren Gatland and the Wales management, England kingpin Martin Johnson was able to quietly unveil his line-up at lunchtime on Tuesday and it contained few surprises.

With a pack containing the likes of Moody, Haskell, Easter and Shaw; and a pacey-looking backline marshalled by born-again Jonny Wilkinson, on paper it presents a potentially formidable mix.



Martyn Williams, whose battle at the breakdown with Lewis Moody will be crucial.

However, the more seasoned Wales team, packed with British Lions and buoyed by four victories in the last six meetings with the 'old enemy' including the stunning 23-15 win to launch the second Grand Slam two years ago, will be quietly confident of spoiling the centenary celebrations.

They were banking on a reunited Lions' front row of Adam Jones, Matthew Rees and Gethin Jenkins, to establish a crucial edge over the English lion, by dominating the less battle-hardened opposing trio, thus enabling the Welsh pack to tie in the big English eight, and freeing their own exciting backs to seek out the wide open spaces of Twickenham.

Sadly, when the team was announced yesterday it showed that Rees has had to withdraw through injury, and will be replaced by in-form Blues hooker Gareth Williams, whose wing colleague Tom James starts ahead of Leigh Halfpenny.

With Byrne thankfully at full back, there were no other surprises, though one imagines there was quite a bit of debate over the inside half slot.

As all eyes now turn towards west London, both head coaches will be all too painfully aware that this is already seen as a season-defining match in terms of their teams' aspirations, as rugby's holy grail of World Cup glory inches ever nearer.

Let battle commence!

WALES TEAM:

Lee Byrne; Tom James, James Hook, Jamie Roberts, Shane Williams; Stephen Jones, Gareth Cooper; Gethin Jenkins, Gareth Williams, Adam Jones, Alun Wyn Jones, Luke Charteris, Andy Powell, Martyn Williams, Ryan Jones (captain).

Replacements: Huw Bennett, Paul James, Bradley Davies, Jonathan Thomas, Richie Rees, Andrew Bishop, Leigh Halfpenny.

(See full Six Nations fixture list and Welsh squad picture on page 10).

Cowbridge's brave effort just falters in the second half

LAST Saturday, Cowbridge First XV travelled to Barry and on a sunny afternoon, on soft, but very playable ground, lost by 59-10.

Barry opened the scoring within 10 minutes with a converted try, and widened the gap at the halfway point with a move to the right and pass back inside for their inside centre to cross for another converted try.

Cowbridge were putting up a terrific first half performance as time and again they broke down Barry attacks with great defence.

On the 25-minute mark, as Cowbridge attacked, a deliberate knock down brought centre Huw Lougher his first points with a penalty 30 metres out.

Then, on the 30-minute mark, Barry, perhaps over-complicating things, tried a miss move in Cowbridge's 22.

Huw Lougher made a great interception for a 75-metre run that he converted.

Cowbridge continued their defensive effort and while it involved the whole team, second rows Alex Kinsey and Alex Lewis were in the thick of things.

Captain Steve Birchenough had to go to the side lines after a heavy tackle and Lewis Ward came on to make his first team debut.

Half-time brought a very creditable 14-10 scoreline.

The effort had taken its toll as openside flanker Josh Lewis retired from the fray. Lewis Ward now replaced him and Birchenough returned to the action.

Hooker Tony Burrows also had to come to the sidelines with an injury, and prop Jon Phillips took his place.

Barry stepped things up in the second half and scored seven further tries, with their impressive inside centre, Dave Provis, claiming three.

With no specialist hooker replacement and despite the best efforts of the front row of Alun John, Phillips and David Popham, the ball came back regularly on the Barry side and in the second half they didn't waste it.

Scrum-half Tom James continued to pose a threat in the second half and Lougher was alert to the break, but with little ball it was a struggle.

Wing Jamie Gibson showed the value of good defence with a number of tackles, but the tackle of the second half was made by captain Birchenough on the Barry replacement second row.

The plaudits must go to Barry, who looked a strong team up front and behind. So congratulations to them, the win takes them to joint top with Blackwood Stars, although Barry have a game in hand.

The club has appointed a new coach in Graham Matthews. We must give him all the support he needs and most importantly, give him a warm welcome.

There will be a break in fixtures now until February 20 when both teams are due to be at home.

The players need to work hard together so they are ready for the next games. If they can build on the very positive first half performance, then good results at home and picking up points away should see us make progress.

The players are tackling their initial French lesson for the game against ASDE from Paris on February 27 but are baulking at the sentence 'let me get the first drink for you'.

If you fancy practising your French, enjoying the game and some fun and singing afterwards, then come along.

The club will be open on Saturday for the England v Wales game, kick-off 5pm, with faggots and peas supplied (at a small cost) by the youth players.

Even without Lee Byrne, let's hope that Wales can show what they are all about. After all it is England!

RV/RK

GEM NOTE:
You guessed wrong about Lee boys!
(Thank the Lord!)

Warriors just lose out to league leaders

THEY say the cup is a great leveller, and that proved true as Cowbridge Town Warriors under-12s took on the unbeaten league leaders Llantwit A in the cup semi-final.

Solid defence from Nathan Robson, Jac Hamilton and Max Lloyd frustrated the Llantwit attackers, while Ben Jones and Dan Oddy impressively won the midfield contest, supported by Owain Llion and the outstanding Leon Gorman.

Attackers Cai Owen, Alphie Sanderson and Joe Treherne took the game to Llantwit, but a goal just before the break meant Llantwit led at half-time.

Squad rotation policy, and an injury to Ben Jones, saw Ryan Thomas, Steff Godwin, Nathan Isaac and Amos Booth enter the fray for a tense second half.

Despite battling bravely, with Joe Treherne coming close to scoring, the favourites Llantwit scored a second past goalie Jac Davies, and as the Warriors pushed forward, they paid by conceding two late goals.

Llantwit deservedly reached the final, but the Cowbridge lads have shown during the season that team work, determination and loyalty to the shirt can bring a great sense of pride, if not, on this occasion a place in the cup final.

RO/IL

Narrow loss for Cowbridge squash firsts

WEEK two of the South Wales Squash Leagues saw Cowbridge A Bar 44 travel to Caldicot for yet another close encounter (the last three results have seen 2-3 outcomes).

Niall Sloan and Julian Jenkins started proceedings at 4 and 5 strings respectively, having varying fortunes, with the former turning in a highly commendable 3-1 result (having lost the the first quite cheaply 2-9), while at No 5 Julian lost narrowly 7-9 in the fourth, having pulled the third game back to be in contention.

So, with the match evenly balanced at one-all and level on points (4-4) it was up to Nos 2 and 3 Jon Bisson and Garfield Leask to try secure the away win.

Both players put up a fight with battling performances, but unfortunately were both edged out 2-3.

With the match lost, the job was with 'A' team skipper to minimise the damage by posting a win at No 1.

This Nick Guard provided, taking the final string quite convincingly at the end 3-1 (9-3, 6-9, 9-3, 9-3). The overall match result (11-15) puts the As in second place in the league table, just one point off top place.

The following night, Cowbridge B Bar 44 welcomed Barry A to the Athletic Ground courts.

Again, No 5 Julian Jenkins in his accustomed B team slot, started the match, together with Chris Ranger at No 4, both players putting in workmanlike performances to win 3-0 (particularly Julian who only dropped six points on his way to victory, with his opponent never really getting to grips with the style of the Cowbridge No 5's squash!).

Steve Morris continued his fine form at No 3 and despite a struggle to take the first game 10-9, soon polished off his Barry opponent 9-0, 9-1 in the second and third games to post yet another 3-0 result.

Paul Reynish seems to be opting for the more value for money length of game with another 3-2 win – coming back from being 1-2 down.

With the match well and truly won, Simon Payne took the 'no pressure' opportunity to cruise to a 3-0 (9-5, 9-4, 9-5) victory at No 1 to put the icing on the cake – match result 19-2.

RUSS WATTS